

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: 11/14/95

Reference No.: CR-79-1995

Proposer: County Executive

Draft No.: 1

Sponsors: MacKinnon, Del Giudice and Wilson

Item Title: A resolution to impose a 911 fee for wireless telephone service and 911 accessible service within the County effective January 1, 1996.

Drafter: Ralph E. Grutzmacher
Legislative Officer

Resource Personnel: Carolyn Scriber
Office of Central Services

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date Presented: ___/___/___

Executive Action: ___/___/___

Committee Referral:(1) 11/7/95 PSFM

Effective Date: ___/___/___

Committee Action:(1) 11/8/95 FAV

Date Introduced: 11/7/95

Pub. Hearing Date: (1) 11/14/95 2:00 PM

Council Action: (1) 11/14/95 ADOPTED

Council Votes: AMc:A, DB:A, SD:A, JE:A, IG:A, WM:A, RVR:A, AS:A, MW:A

Pass/Fail: P

Remarks: _____

PUBLIC SAFETY & FISCAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT Date: 11/8/95

Committee Vote: Favorable, 4-0, (In Favor: Council Members Del Giudice, Gourdine, Maloney and Russell).

This resolution will provide for the imposition of an additional charge for wireless telephone service and 911-accessible service within the County, effective January 1, 1996. The authority to impose this fee was granted by the General Assembly with the passage of SB-332.

State analysts estimate that there are approximately 456,000 cellular users in Maryland. If the County's share of cellular users in the state is proportional to the County's share of regular, non-cellular connections, a fifty cent (\$.50) per month fee would net the County approximately

\$200,000 in additional revenues. The FY97 revenues would be around \$480,000 based on the State's assumption of a 20% increase in cellular phone users.

The fiscal impact on the County would be positive.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT

(Includes reason for proposal, as well as any unique statutory requirements)

The state law, Article 41, Section 18-105, provided for the adoption of a fee to be applied to switched local exchange access service to fund County 911 Emergency Telephone service. The fee was established at the maximum rate of fifty cents per month, effective January 1, 1991. Chapter 158, 1995 Laws of Maryland, extended the scope of the fee to include "wireless telephone service" (cellular telephone service, personal communications service (PCS), and specialized mobile radio (SMR)) and other 911-accessible service. The proposed resolution will impose the fifty cent fee uniformly to all 911 accessible telecommunications services effective January 1, 1996.

CODE INDEX TOPICS