

By Mr. Backman of Brookline, petition of Morton Bardfield and Jack H. Backman that cities and towns be required to co-operate with the American Telephone and Telegraph Company in providing emergency telephone service. Government Regulations.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Nine.

AN ACT REQUIRING CITIES AND TOWNS TO CO-OPERATE WITH THE AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY IN PROVIDING AN EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SERVICE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 166 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 14 the following section:—
3 *Section 14A.* The department of public utilities shall require
4 the New England Telephone & Telegraph Company to install
5 the three-digit universal emergency telephone number 911 in
6 each city and town, for use as the local public emergency num-
7 ber, in accord with the recommendations of the Bell System.
8 Further, the department of public utilities shall require the New
9 England Telephone and Telegraph Company to adhere to the
10 improving policy of assigning telephone exchange boundaries
11 that coincide with the city and town boundaries, and as neces-
12 sary, carry out such corrective programs to accomplish said co-
13 incidental boundaries.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 40 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 8D the following section:—
3 *Section 8E.* Each city and town shall make application to its
4 local telephone company for installation of the universal emer-
5 gency telephone number 911. This number shall be so utilized
6 that when dialing 911 on the local telephone exchange(s) nor-
7 mally identified with said city or town, the caller will reach the

8 local emergency dispatcher(s). Such service may be normally
9 located in a single control point such as the police department
10 headquarters. Said police department, if not presently so
11 equipped, must have facilities for inter-service communications,
12 so that calls for all local existing public service emergency services
13 such as fire, ambulance, etc., may be accepted on the 911 service.