

Testimony To The Senate Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs

Senate Bill 1559

By: Hasina Squires February 14, 2012 Representing Oregon APCO/NENA

Chair Boquist & Committee Members:

Good morning for the record my name is Hasina Squires and I appear before you today on behalf of the Oregon APCO/NENA (an organization that represents the 9-1-1 centers across the State of Oregon).

Our membership supports the -4 amendment to Senate Bill 1559. The amendment would distribute current statutory city/county 9-1-1 distributions directly to the forty-nine PSAPs (9-1-1 centers).

Current statute already allows cities and counties to have their 9-1-1 dollars straight to the PSAPs. This legislation would simply cut out the "middle man" and require forty-nine checks to be cut instead of two hundred seventy-six checks.

This legislation represents a common sense streamlined approach to government that will reduce the likelihood of unauthorized expenditures of 9-1-1 dollars. According to statute 9-1-1 funds are permitted to be used to fund 9-1-1 call taking functions and not other public safety functions.

Finally, if this legislation is passed it will result in a more clear audit trail of fund expenditures.

The membership of Oregon APCO/NENA urges you to support of Senate Bill 1559 with the -4 amendment.

Thank you for your time I would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.