

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2016 REGULAR SESSION

Originating

Senate Bill 704

BY SENATORS BLAIR, WALTERS, FERNS, GAUNCH

AND MULLINS

[Originating in the Committee on Government
Organization; Reported on February 28, 2016]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §24-6-12 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
2 to dispatching of towing service for emergency towing of vehicles.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1 That §24-6-12 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and
2 reenacted to read as follows:

ARTICLE 6. LOCAL EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

§24-6-12. Dispatching of towing services for emergency towing of vehicles; exceptions.

1 (a) Every three years, the county commission of each county or the municipality operating
2 an emergency telephone system or an enhanced emergency telephone system shall, ~~in~~
3 ~~consultation with all public safety units, public agencies and~~ make an inventory of all available
4 towing services located within, and adjacent to, the area covered by the emergency system and
5 registered as common carriers pursuant to the provisions of chapter twenty-four-a of this code,
6 ~~establish a policy that provides for the most prompt, fair, equitable and effective response to~~
7 ~~requests or dispatches for emergency towing services.~~ When one or more towing services are
8 present within the covered area, the responding personnel of the emergency telephone system
9 or the enhanced emergency telephone system shall dispatch a towing service only from within
10 the coverage area. The personnel of the emergency telephone system or the enhanced
11 emergency telephone system shall dispatch each service on a rotating basis, to be rotated
12 weekly. A municipality that does not operate an emergency telephone system or enhanced
13 emergency telephone system shall dispatch or request dispatch towing service through the
14 system in accordance with the rotation established. When there is no towing service located
15 within the covered area, the personnel of the emergency telephone system or the enhanced
16 emergency telephone system shall dispatch the towing service that is closest to the area covered
17 by that system. For purposes of this section, "covered areas" are areas within fire departments
18 primary response areas: *Provided, That this section does not apply to counties or municipalities*
19 that already use similar provisions or have a rotation system in place.

- 20 (b) For each incident where towing services are required, the public agency procuring
21 towing services shall maintain a public record of the name of the towing service utilized.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to mandate the use of local towing services for the benefit of the owners of vehicles requiring emergency towing services.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.