

Week Ten ...

CALL TO ACTION!!

Senate Bill 500

*Sponsors: Senator Jon Woods - Springdale
Representative Micah Neal - Springdale*

Revises provisions governing collection and remittance of an E911 emergency services charge on prepaid wireless telephone devices.

This bill is levying a charge for prepaid wireless telecommunications service to support the 911 commission that is in effect now, being collected at the wholesale level.

This bill requires a retailer to collect this charge from their consumers. The fee is 65 Cents per transaction!

It will also provide additional rules governing the requirements and liabilities of sellers. This bill has gone cross country and the proponents to this bill are using that to try to pass it. The national chains are already forced in some states to do this.

AGRMA has recommended that the fee be treated like the soft drink tax by licensing the wholesaler and requiring the retailer to only buy from licensed wholesaler.

In rural areas of Arkansas where an independent may not be capable of collecting this fee, the consumer loses! It might be their only means of communication and they will have to drive miles to purchase the minutes needed!

*AGRMA is **not** against the 911 fee but we are against the collection point being at the **retail level!***

Please contact your Representative or anyone you know and ask them to VOTE NO! If we can hold it in committee would be the best!

Members of the Insurance and Commerce committee are:

- **Wren, Tommy (D-62) - Chair**
- **Dale, Robert E. (R-68) - Vice Chair**
- **Barnett, Jonathan (R-87) - Member**
- **Biviano, Mark (R-46) - Member**
- **Carnine, Les "Skip" (R-90) - Member**
- **Carter, Davy (R-43) - Member**
- **Collins, Charlie (R-84) - Member**
- **Copenhaver, Harold (D-58) - Member**
- **Farrer, Joe (R-44) - Member**
- **Love, Fredrick J. (D-29) - Member**
- **Malone, Stephanie (R-77) - Member**
- **Murdock, Reginald (D-48) - Member**
- **Perry, Mark (D-42) - Member**
- **Rice, Terry (R-21) - Member**
- **Vines, John T. (D-25) - Member**
- **Wardlaw, Jeff (D-8) - Member**
- **Wilkins, IV, Henry "Hank" (D-17) - Member**
- **Williams, Darrin (D-36) - Member**
- **Word, James L. (D-16) - Member**
- **Wright, Marshall (D-49) - Member**

You may go on the link below and send an email or call the House of Representatives and tell them who you are needing to contact and why. The more pink slips they get the better off we are!

To find your legislator's please go to this web site:

Click on [Find your legislator](#)

"RETAIL" DAY ON THE HILL

Join the Arkansas Grocers and Retail Merchants

DATE: April 9, 2013

STARTING TIME: 9:30

Lunch: 11:30AM - 1:30PM

LOCATION: Arkansas State Capitol
and Capitol Hill Apartments Lobby

Please click below to RSVP!

We need your reservations.

[For more information click here.](#)

LEGISLATIVE ALERT!

HB 1398 House Sponsor: Leding, Greg
AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE GIVING, BARTERING, OR SELLING OF E-CIGARETTES AND OTHER NICOTINE PRODUCTS TO MINORS; TO PROHIBIT MINORS FROM POSSESSING OR PURCHASING E-CIGARETTES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

This bill is on the Senate Judiciary Committee calendar for Wednesday, March 27. We don't feel it will be heard on Wednesday but we need to be prepared. This bill can penalize the holders of Tobacco permits but not the stores that the Tobacco Control Board does not license - such as the kiosk at the Malls that sell them. You do not have to have a tobacco license to sell them!

The members of the Judiciary Committee are:

Senator Jeremy Hutchinson		
Senator Robert Thompson		
Senator Jon Woods		
Senator Eddie Joe Williams		
Senator Jane English		
Senator Keith Ingram		
Senator Gary Stubblefield		
Senator Bryan King		

You may email them by clicking on the link below or call them at 501-682-6107 501-682-6107 and leave them a message.

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Click on [Find your Senator](#).

Contact: Polly Martin, President

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