

# CUMBERLAND COUNTY, TENNESSEE

TWO NORTH MAIN, SUITE 203  
CROSSVILLE, TENNESSEE 38555

BROCK HILL  
COUNTY MAYOR

TEL: (931) 484-6165  
FAX: (931) 484-5374

CMAYOR@CUMBERLANDCOUNTYTN.GOV

---

December 17, 2009

Honorable Harry Green, Ph.D., Executive Director  
Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations  
226 Capitol Boulevard Building, Suite 508  
Nashville, TN 37243

Re: House Bill 0204

Dear Dr. Green:

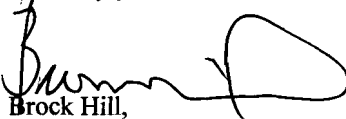
Thank you allowing me an opportunity to comment upon HB 0204 by Rep. Judd Matheny, and its companion bill, SB 0208 by Sen. Eric Stewart. Cumberland County and Cumberland County E911 strongly support this bipartisan legislation. HB 204/ SB 208 will generate over \$25,000,000 per year in new revenue, and dedicate 100% to local E911 districts. The bill also secures grant funding now distributed annually by the Tennessee Emergency Communications Board (TECB). I do not have any objection to the other feature of the bill, which provides additional funding to lower population districts.

The bill will benefit each E911 district and county in Tennessee, as well as many municipalities, by relieving financial pressure for the support of E911. Cumberland County currently supports E911 operations from property tax collections.

HB 204 would increase the cell rate to \$1.50. The rate has not been adjusted since enacted in 1998, when cell phone users were a small fraction of the total call volume. Today, cell phone calls represent almost two-thirds of total E911 calls. Residential landline users have been paying \$1.50 for many years. It is long overdue to bring fairness in funding to E911. We ask TACIR use this opportunity to recommend that E911 be completely funded by user fees.

Every county in Tennessee invests proportional amounts of property taxes for emergency dispatching services. I ask TACIR to determine the total. The Matheny-Stewart bill does not attain this goal, but is an important step forward.

Sincerely yours,



Brock Hill,  
County Mayor

BH:cd