the	

## KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Legislative Bill

Blue	Bill#	11

## Referred to Committee: Senate 2

Authors: Hannah Watkins, Hannah Farley, Mya Curry	Action on the Bill	
School: Henderson North MS	House	Senate
	Passed	Passed
City: Henderson	Defeated	Defeated

An act to enable all 911 operators and citizens of Kentucky to receive and send emergency contact via text message.

## Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: This is a bill to ensure that all citizens and visitors of Kentucky are able to text 911 in emergencies, in addition to being able to call 911. This would help to increase the general safety in the state of Kentucky. Providing this service to visitors and citizens of Kentucky would substantially increase public safety. When put into situations where engaging a phone call with an operator could cause more problems, be uncomfortable, or just not reasonable for fear of being overheard. An example case would be an armed robbery. It would be very easy for the robber to hear the victims talking on the phone, therefore threaten the safety of the victim(s). Instead, the victim(s) could simply text "help", or if time allowed, could the describe the current situation, and/or location. One in three women in Kentucky will be or have been a victim of domestic in her lifetime. If she is in a domestic violence situation, she may feel by calling she is putting herself in more danger, whereas she will likely be more able and more comfortable to text.

Section 2: Punishments for fake 911 texts is something to address from the start. If someone is to falsely report to falsely report an incident, the punishment will be the same as if someone were to do it by phone call: "Person or persons involved in a false 911 call shall have no more than twelve months imprisonment, and no more than a \$500 fine."

Section 3: This bill will affect all current and future 911 call operators, in addition to all residents and visitors of Kentucky. The bill will be funded by driving tickets paid both by Kentucky citizens and visitors. Five percent of this will be put into effect considering this is mainly how 911 call operation centers are currently paid for. This bill could be put into action cost efficiently by coordinating with the 911 call operation centers that are already in place.

Section 4: This bill will go into effect by middle to late 2018. However, the advertising would begin in 2016, to prepare and inform citizens. The funding for this will also come from driving tickets. Advertisements would consist mainly of news, billboards, and on social media sites.