

ASSEMBLY THIRD READING  
AB 1805 (Ransom)  
As Amended May 22, 2026  
2/3 vote. Urgency

## SUMMARY

Provides the California Department of Technology (CDT) oversight authority over the Next Generation 911 system, requires the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to submit quarterly reports regarding the development and implementation of, and the total and current year funding spent on, the Next Generation 911 systems, and requires the California State Auditor to conduct an audit regarding the implementation of the Next Generation (NG) 911 (NG911) system by Cal OES.

### Major Provisions

- 1) Removes the requirement that the Chief of the Public Safety Communication's Division serve as the Chair of the State 911 Advisory Board (Board) and adds a representative from the Department of Technology to the Board.
- 2) Authorizes the Board to hire an independent technical expert for advisory or oversight purposes, as specified.
- 3) Authorizes the Board to make formal recommendations to Cal OES, as specified.
- 4) Provides CDT with oversight power over the California 911 Emergency Communications Office on all of the following subjects:
  - a) Policies, practices, and procedures for the office.
  - b) Technical and operational standards for the state 911 system consistent with the National Emergency Number Association standards.
  - c) Expediting the rollout of Enhanced 911 Phase II technology.
  - d) Changes to approved plans.
  - e) Evaluating transition plans.
  - f) Outcomes of reports, as specified.
- 5) Requires Cal OES to submit a quarterly report, on specified dates, to the Legislature, Legislative Analyst's Office, and the Board, regarding the development and implementation of, and the total and current year funding spent on, the Next Generation 911 systems, as specified, and the actions taken by Cal OES in response to recommendations made by the Board, as specified.
- 6) Requires the State Auditor to conduct an audit regarding the implementation of the Next Generation 911 system by Cal OES that evaluates a number of related topics, as specified.
- 7) Requires the State Auditor to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature, Cal OES, and other appropriate entities.

- 8) Authorizes the State Auditor to contract with technical experts to assist in fulfilling the requirements of the audit.
- 9) Prohibits Cal OES from signing a long-term NG911 contract until the audit is completed, as specified.

## COMMENTS

### According to the Author

"Implementing Next Generation 911 is vitally important to the safety of all Californians. However, as demonstrated by the latest transition plan provided by Cal OES, the Next Generation 911 system, and these new safety mechanisms, are once again delayed. As outlined by a recent report by the Legislative Analyst's Office, it is clear that the implementation of this project has faced serious management challenges. Walking away from Next Generation 911 is not an option. The Legislature has a key role to play in reorienting this project toward success. To do that, we need to understand what has gone wrong, and how the new proposal addresses all potential issues. That is why this bill directs the state auditor to complete a comprehensive audit of the Next Generation 911 system, provide oversight powers to the California Department of Technology, and strengthens reporting requirements. It is our responsibility to make sure modernization happens within a clear timeline and is implemented safely and responsibly for taxpayers."

### Arguments in Support

None on file.

### Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

## FISCAL COMMENTS

According to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations:

- 1) Costs of an unknown amount to CDT to serve on the Board and have oversight over the Office.
- 2) Cost pressures of an unknown amount, potentially in the hundreds of millions of dollars, to State Emergency Telephone Number Account (SETNA) by granting CDT oversight over the Office, including budget, funding, and reimbursement decisions related to SETNA. Funding for the state's 911 system from a monthly surcharge on telephone customers is deposited into SETNA, which is expected to receive approximately \$215 million in surcharge revenue in fiscal year 2026-27. Actual fiscal impacts would depend on future CDT decisions and the extent to which new programs, technologies, or operational models are mandated.
- 3) Costs pressures of an unknown amount, potentially in the hundreds of thousands of dollars, to the Board to hire an independent technical expert for advisory or oversight purposes General Fund (GF)).

- 4) Costs of an unknown, but potentially significant amount, to OES to produce the quarterly reports for the Legislature, the first of which is due in four months, and cooperate with the Auditor to facilitate the audit (GF).
- 5) Cost pressures of approximately \$850,000 to the Auditor to complete the audit (GF). The Auditor notes that it does not receive a per audit state budget appropriation. Instead, the Auditor would complete the work within its existing budget resources for all audits the Auditor must complete, either statutorily or by request of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee (JLAC). Given the urgency clause in this bill and the audit's required start date of September 1, 2026, the NextGen 911 audit would likely take precedence over other approved JLAC requests.

## **VOTES**

### **ASM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: 7-0-0**

**YES:** Ransom, Hadwick, Arambula, Bains, Bennett, Calderon, DeMaio

### **ASM APPROPRIATIONS: 11-0-4**

**YES:** Wicks, Aguiar-Curry, Calderon, Caloza, Fong, Mark González, Krell, Pacheco, Pellerin, Sharp-Collins, Solache

**ABS, ABST OR NV:** Hoover, Dixon, Ta, Tangipa

## **UPDATED**

VERSION: May 22, 2026

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