



9-1-1 INDUSTRY ALLIANCE<sup>SM</sup>

600 Cameron Street, Suite 309

Alexandria, Virginia 22314

p: 703.340.1656 | f: 703.340.1658

[www.911alliance.org](http://www.911alliance.org)

May 28, 2009

The Honorable Leticia Van de Putte  
Senate District 26  
P.O. Box 12068  
Capitol Station  
Austin, TX 78711

**Re: Support of Van de Putte Amendment H.B. 1831 by Corte/Carona**

The 9-1-1 Industry Alliance ("9IA") was established in December 2005 by a group of prominent industry leaders. The vision of the organization's founders is that 9IA will play an important role as the voice of industry on major public policy issues, and that the expertise of industry leaders can assist public policymakers and government emergency communications professionals as complex choices are made regarding advanced 9-1-1 alternatives in the years ahead.

Please accept this letter as support from the national 9-1-1 Industry Alliance to encourage Texas to enact legislation that would adopt a uniform and statewide 9-1-1 emergency services fee on the retail sale of prepaid wireless telecommunications services to consumers. We believe supporting the retention of amendments made incorporating provisions into HB 1831 as passed by the Senate (Amendment #11 placed on H.B. 1831 by Corte/Carona). We believe the bill will help restoration of funding Texas' valuable public safety infrastructure and assist in protecting its constituents.

Prepaid wireless devices are the fastest growing consumer choice for telecommunications service. These devices traditionally have not been required to financially support the 9-1-1 network (as opposed to almost all other services) across our nation but are significant users of 9-1-1, yet they do not financially support it. This legislation is paramount to ensuring the public can be served in an emergency using any device they choose.

Thank you for your leadership on this important public safety issue, 9IA strongly encourages the Texas legislature to pass HB 1831 with the amendments incorporating the retail point of sale language for collecting E9-1-1 fees from prepaid wireless consumers.

Kind regards,

9-1-1 Industry Alliance<sup>SM</sup>

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Robertson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Jeff Robertson**  
Executive Director  
911 Industry Alliance