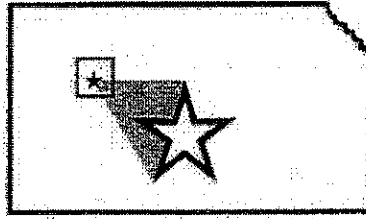


# Graham County

**COLE PRESLEY**  
SHERIFF



PHONE: 785-421-2107  
FAX: 785-421-2891  
EMAIL: [sheriff@turaltel.net](mailto:sheriff@turaltel.net)

## Sheriff's Department

410 NORTH POMEROY  
Hill City, Kansas 67642

**Neutral Testimony to the Senate Utilities Committee  
Related to SB420 and the NG 911CC  
February 28, 2018**

Chairman Olson and Committee Members,

I would like to take the opportunity to provide information to the committee relative to local jurisdictions that have not chosen to operate on the system offered by the NG911 Coordinating Council. As it directly relates to SB420, there is not much in the bill that impacts agencies outside of the system. While my position related to the bill is neutral there are a few items that should be brought up related to training, administration, interoperability and local authority.

First in addressing the reasons related to not going on the State system. While I cannot speak for all of the agencies that are not on the system, I don't know how many are not, I can speak from the perception of several. At the time that most PSAPs were in need of replacing legacy equipment, many companies were moving away from Call Taking Systems, removing technical support for existing systems put small counties in a dangerous situation as many do not have IT specialists on staff to work out software or network related issues. Without the support of the provider, PSAPs had to make a move or face a complete loss of service. At that time, the State provided system was not available to transition to. Further, many of these agencies wanted to ensure that the system was best built to fit their specific needs individually and not serve as a standard template system that was not designed to accommodate the different needs from one jurisdiction to the next. The advantage many of us see now is the ability to administer the system locally and make local decisions related to call re-routing and interoperability.

As it relates to training and administration, SB420 does provide for training for dispatchers. No leader in public safety could ever argue that current training is sufficient. Our world is simply too volatile for anyone in public safety to think so. The concern that I and other Sheriffs have is that training and administering a 911 system varies drastically from one jurisdiction to the next. That requires training, and operating standards to vary from one jurisdiction to the next. It is simply not feasible to create an environment that sees every PSAP in Kansas operating within the same model.

Sheriff Cole Presley, Graham County Kansas