

40:23-47 to 40:23-53

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST  
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NJSA: 40:23-47 to 40:23-53

(911 locatable  
mailing address  
system--pilot  
program in  
Burlington  
County)

LAWS OF: 1991

CHAPTER: 265

Bill No: A4291

Sponsor(s): Shinn and Colburn

Date Introduced: January 8, 1991

Committee: Assembly: County Government

Senate: County & Municipal Government

Amended during passage: No

Date of Passage: Assembly: May 9, 1991

Senate: June 27, 1991

Date of Approval: August 16, 1991

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement: Yes

Committee Statement: Assembly: Yes

Senate: Yes

Fiscal Note: No

Veto Message: No

Message on signing: No

Following were printed:

Reports: No

Hearings: No

KBG/SLJ

P.L.1991, CHAPTER 265, approved August 16, 1991  
1991 Assembly No. 4291

1 AN ACT providing for a standard 9-1-1 locatable mailing address  
2 system pilot program for Burlington County and supplementing  
3 chapter 23 of Title 40 of the Revised Statutes.  
4

5 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the  
6 State of New Jersey:

7 1. The Legislature finds and declares that it is necessary for  
8 the health, safety and welfare of the residents of this State that  
9 a standard, basic three-line address system be established and  
10 adopted on a county-by-county basis which will accurately  
11 reflect the location of all existing and potential properties,  
12 without duplication. The Legislature further finds and declares  
13 that such a standard mailing address system shall function for use  
14 in conjunction with the emergency 9-1-1 system, for delivery of  
15 mail, and for all other uses for which an address is applicable.

16 The Legislature further finds and declares that prior to the  
17 implementation of a standard 9-1-1 locatable mailing address  
18 system on a Statewide level, it is necessary to demonstrate the  
19 feasibility of such a program by establishing a pilot program in a  
20 single county; that the pilot program should take place in an area  
21 where significant problems exist due to a dual mailing address  
22 system; that Burlington County is a large county in which several  
23 municipalities have the same postal name, several streets within  
24 municipalities have similar names, and many residents of  
25 municipalities in the county have experienced difficulty when  
26 needing emergency services due to these circumstances; and that  
27 because of the above mentioned criteria, in Burlington County, a  
28 pilot program to test the feasibility of a standard mailing address  
29 system would be especially suitable and would provide the best  
30 laboratory to demonstrate the feasibility of the program.

31 2. As used in this act:

32 "Building" means a house, residence, dwelling, store or other  
33 structure used for residential, commercial or public purpose  
34 which has frontage on, or access to, a street in a municipality.

35 "County" means Burlington County.

36 "Street" means any paved or unpaved road, highway, avenue,  
37 lane, pedestrian mall, alleyway or cartway for the passage of  
38 motor vehicles and pedestrians and located within the borders of  
39 a municipality or a county.

40 "System" means the 9-1-1- locatable mailing address system.

41 3. The governing body of the county shall, by resolution,

1 establish a 9-1-1 locatable mailing address system within the  
2 county. The county governing body shall require the governing  
3 body of each municipality within the county to implement the  
4 system as follows:

5 a. The governing body in each municipality in the county shall  
6 review the names and numbers assigned to county and municipal  
7 streets within the municipality and the numbering of properties  
8 and buildings within the municipality to determine if the  
9 assignment of names and numbers conforms with the guidelines  
10 established in section 4 of this act.

11 b. Upon completion of the review required by subsection a. of  
12 this section, the governing body of each municipality shall  
13 determine what changes, if any, are necessary in the naming or  
14 numbering of the county or municipal streets, or in the numbering  
15 of properties or buildings in order to effectuate the provisions of  
16 this act.

17 c. Any changes which are made pursuant to the provisions of  
18 subsections a. and b. of this section shall be reflected on the  
19 appropriate municipal tax and house numbering maps and the  
20 9-1-1 Vernon Graphics maps for inclusion in the 9-1-1 data  
21 base. A copy of the corrected municipal tax map cover sheet,  
22 and emergency services map as adopted by the governing body,  
23 shall be presented to the county for its use. The new or  
24 corrected maps are to be available to the public, map companies,  
25 and any State or federal agency requesting or entitled to a copy.

26 4. The guidelines for the implementation of this act shall  
27 include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

28 a. Municipalities shall have one correct name, which shall be  
29 filed with the county clerk and the Secretary of State.

30 b. No two municipalities in the county shall have the exact  
31 same name. For the purposes of this act, a prefix or suffix in the  
32 name of a municipality, such as "Township," shall constitute a  
33 separate name.

34 c. In the event that two or more municipalities within the  
35 county have the same name, the municipality which incorporated  
36 first under its existing name shall retain the right to continue to  
37 use its existing name.

38 d. If a municipality is required, or chooses, to change its name  
39 pursuant to the provisions of this act, it shall not adopt any  
40 existing municipal or county name currently being used in this  
41 State.

42 e. One correct name shall be used for each street in a  
43 municipality and where two separate and noncontiguous streets  
44 within a municipality have the exact same name, a distinctive  
45 prefix or suffix shall be assigned to distinguish the streets, or a  
46 new name shall be assigned to one street. If two existing streets  
47 have names that have resulted in confusion due to any similarity,  
48 and a name change is not practical, the property numbering on

1 the streets shall be made to contrast significantly as an added  
2 safety measure. Numbering by the mile post system may be used  
3 as an alternative, if applicable.

4 f. All properties which now or hereafter have frontage on or  
5 access to any street shall be plotted on the official tax map of  
6 the municipality.

7 g. Each property with frontage on or access to any street shall  
8 be assigned an official property number, except where one or  
9 more buildings or lots are located on an unnamed private road,  
10 lane or way having access to a street. In that situation only one  
11 official number shall be assigned, and it shall be based upon the  
12 number which best describes the location of the access point on  
13 the street. If more than one occupied building exists, each  
14 building shall be known as the number assigned, followed by a  
15 letter, beginning with "A" and continuing alphabetically.

16 h. Official property numbers shall proceed from a logical point  
17 of origin and shall be in proper numerical sequence in relation to  
18 the numbers assigned to other lots with frontage on or access to  
19 the same street.

20 i. Odd numbers shall be assigned to properties on one side of a  
21 street and even numbers assigned to properties on the other side  
22 of the street with sufficient flexibility so that the numbering  
23 system may accommodate maximum density as allowed by zoning  
24 regulations now in effect. If existing lot frontage is less than the  
25 minimum zoned frontage, the numbering shall compress to  
26 accommodate the existing lot frontage.

27 j. Governing bodies are encouraged to number property on  
28 federal and state highways and county roads by the mile post  
29 marker system, according to the following protocol. Even  
30 numbers shall be on the right as the numbering increases  
31 according to the mile posts. The most southern or westerly  
32 street origin of a mile post marker system shall be indicated as  
33 zero. The numbering shall relate and progress according to the  
34 mileage. If a municipality has already established mile post  
35 marker numbering with the odd numbers on the right, the  
36 numbering may remain if no confusion exists.

37 If the county elects to request mile post numbering on a county  
38 road, or a key access road, it shall erect the mile post markers if  
39 they do not presently exist. If a county route is comprised of two  
40 or more streets that have separate names, then the names  
41 assigned by the municipality shall be used in the addressing, the  
42 9-1-1 data base and on the 9-1-1 map, and street signs. Where  
43 applicable, the county route number shall also be listed in the  
44 9-1-1 data bank.

45 k. Priority shall be given to numbers or names of federal  
46 highways and roads over all other numbers and names of streets  
47 in a county. State highway or street numbers or names shall have  
48 priority over all county or municipal street names or numbers.

1 Governing bodies are encouraged to number property on all major  
2 highways and important county roads by the mile post marker  
3 system, except that if an important county road that provides  
4 access to many municipalities is not easily numbered by the mile  
5 post marker system, it shall have one set of numbers that is in  
6 sequence for its entire length.

7 l. All municipalities shall erect "Entering ....." (insert  
8 name of municipality) signs at the municipal boundary on every  
9 major access road that enters the municipality, except interstate  
10 highways. The sign shall face traffic as it enters the  
11 municipality. If the street name changes or the property  
12 numbering is not in sequence on any street that crosses a  
13 municipal boundary then that data shall be announced by a sign.  
14 When a major access road crosses a municipal boundary, the  
15 street name shall stay the same and the property numbering shall  
16 remain in sequence.

17 m. Upon any subdivision of land in a municipality resulting in  
18 lots other than those delineated in the official municipal tax map,  
19 the governing body of a municipality shall assign a property  
20 number to each lot resulting from the subdivision. Any new  
21 street shall have a unique name which shall be registered with the  
22 county 9-1-1 coordinator for entry into the data base prior to the  
23 issuance of a construction permit.

24 n. If a large lot has more than one available property number  
25 and it contains a building, then the property number that best  
26 describes the location of the driveway, or access point shall be  
27 assigned.

28 o. The owner of any building or occupied lot for which an  
29 official property number is designed and assigned shall be  
30 required at his own expense to place the official number at a  
31 point near where the driveway enters the street, or in such a  
32 manner that the number is easily visible from the street, or both.  
33 Three inch high numbers shall be the standard, and reflective  
34 numbers shall be encouraged. In those cases where more than one  
35 building exists on a lot or private road, land, or way, an address  
36 sign shall be placed near the point of access to the street showing  
37 the official number and letter designation of each building with a  
38 legal address on the lot or private roadway. Each building shall  
39 also have the number and letter designation clearly posted in  
40 front of or on the structure. The cost of erecting and  
41 maintaining an address sign shall be borne by the owners of the  
42 buildings who are also responsible for notifying any tenants of  
43 their official 9-1-1 locatable mailing address.

44 p. Each municipality shall, after implementation and adoption  
45 of the 9-1-1 locatable mailing address system, forward a correct  
46 version of the official municipal tax map and house numbering  
47 map, where available, to each U.S. Post Office serving the  
48 municipality, and to all emergency services. Each municipality

1 shall take any steps which it deems necessary to inform the  
2 residents and businesses of the changes in their addresses. The  
3 residents or businesses are responsible for making the address  
4 corrections at their delivering postal facility and all other  
5 notifications.

6 q. The legal name of the municipality shall appear on the  
7 bottom line of all mailing addresses within the municipality. The  
8 name of the postal facility shall not be used unless it is exactly  
9 the same as the municipal name. The existing five digit zip-code  
10 that presently delivers the mail shall be incorporated into the  
11 address and remain unchanged.

12 The standard three-line 9-1-1 locatable mailing address shall  
13 appear as follows when mail is delivered to the location:

14 RESIDENT OR BUSINESS NAME  
15 ### STREET NAME APT, SUITE, ETC.  
16 MUNICIPAL NAME NJ XXZIP-CODE

17 The standard three-line 9-1-1 locatable mailing address shall  
18 appear as follows for a location when the occupant receives mail  
19 delivered to a post office box within a postal facility:

20 RESIDENT OR BUSINESS NAME  
21 ### STREET NAME MUNICIPAL NAME  
22 P O BOX ###  
23 POST OFFICE NAME NJ XXZIP-CODE

24 This standard shall apply to the entire State and shall become  
25 effective within the county after adoption of the provisions of  
26 this act by the county governing body.

27 If postal rural route or rural box numbers are still in use, they  
28 shall be replaced by municipally designated and assigned property  
29 numbers according to standard protocols defined in this  
30 legislation. The county governing body shall assist any  
31 municipality unable to accomplish the property numbering or  
32 street name corrections if financial hardship exists or technical  
33 assistance is required by funding or performing the necessary  
34 work in cooperation with the municipal governing body.

35 r. If a rural mail box is located at the driveway entrance to a  
36 rural property and it is on the same side of the street it shall  
37 have three-inch high numbers on both sides of the mail box.

38 If the mail box is located across the street, then it shall have  
39 at least one number on the box. The number shall face traffic,  
40 and a three-inch high property number shall be posed at the  
41 driveway entrance of the property.

42 If the mail box is remotely located on another street or  
43 clustered with several other mail boxes then the number and  
44 street name should be printed on the front of the box in one-inch  
45 high letters or numbers, as appropriate, and a three-inch high  
46 property number is to be posted at the driveway entrance.

47 5. The governing body of the county shall require  
48 municipalities within the county to complete the review required

1 under section 3 of this act and to complete all changes required  
2 under section 4 of this act as soon as is practical and in  
3 combination with preparations for the implementation of the  
4 mandated enhanced 9-1-1 program.

5 6. Beginning on the effective date of this act and pending  
6 compliance with the provisions of this act by all of the  
7 municipalities in Burlington County, all State income tax and  
8 data forms shall accurately show the municipal name on the  
9 form, and data processing in all State departments, agencies and  
10 commissions, especially with regard to school funding, shall be  
11 accomplished using the legal municipal name and not postal  
12 facility names or zip-codes.

13 7. Within one year of the establishment of the system by the  
14 board of freeholders, the board of freeholders shall provide a  
15 report to the Governor and to the Legislature evaluating the  
16 effectiveness of the program.

17 8. This act shall take effect 80 days after enactment.  
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#### 20 STATEMENT 21

22 The provisions of this bill establish a pilot program in  
23 Burlington County to address the confusion which arises in  
24 municipalities having the same postal name, or which have  
25 multiple streets of the same name or inconsistent numbering of  
26 buildings on a particular street.

27 The bill permits the governing body of Burlington County, by  
28 resolution, to establish a 9-1-1 locatable mailing address system  
29 pursuant to the provisions of the bill. Under such a system, no  
30 two municipalities in Burlington County would be permitted to  
31 have exactly the same name, and a mechanism is provided in the  
32 bill to be used by Burlington County to effectuate a locatable  
33 mailing address system.

34 The provisions of the bill are especially important with respect  
35 to the implementation of a 9-1-1 emergency response system.  
36 As county governments extend present dispatching services to  
37 include the enhanced 9-1-1 program, the county governments  
38 must have the ability to ensure that the system of street  
39 addresses will not create confusion for emergency response  
40 teams, or police or fire vehicles, as they seek out persons in need  
41 of assistance. The current existence of postal names that are  
42 different from a municipality's name presents a severe problem  
43 for emergency response teams, police or firefighters seeking to  
44 respond in a timely fashion to an emergency circumstance. This  
45 problem has been documented, and extends beyond emergency  
46 dispatching to other governmental functions because statistics  
47 gathered on postal names or zip-codes cannot be applied to a  
48 municipality unless the boundaries of the postal delivery area and

1 the municipality are exactly the same. The experiences of the  
2 governing body of Burlington County in attempting to address this  
3 problem by virtue of the provisions of this bill, will provide  
4 valuable knowledge and insight to the other counties in the State  
5 facing such local inconsistencies.

6 Enactment of the 9-1-1 locatable mailing address system will  
7 also enhance the business climate in Burlington County by  
8 facilitating all deliveries and eliminating the dual address files  
9 maintained by all utilities and many service and delivery  
10 companies.

11 The 9-1-1 locatable mailing address system will also facilitate  
12 the delivery of census forms in Burlington County and insure that  
13 the tabulation of all data is easily and correctly accomplished  
14 with respect to Burlington County.

15  
16  
17 LOCAL GOVERNMENT

18  
19 Provides for a standard 9-1-1 locatable mailing address system  
20 pilot program for Burlington County.



1 under section 3 of this act and to complete all changes required  
2 under section 4 of this act as soon as is practical and in  
3 combination with preparations for the implementation of the  
4 mandated enhanced 9-1-1 program.

5 6. Beginning on the effective date of this act and pending  
6 compliance with the provisions of this act by all of the  
7 municipalities in Burlington County, all State income tax and  
8 data forms shall accurately show the municipal name on the  
9 form, and data processing in all State departments, agencies and  
10 commissions, especially with regard to school funding, shall be  
11 accomplished using the legal municipal name and not postal  
12 facility names or zip-codes.

13 7. Within one year of the establishment of the system by the  
14 board of freeholders, the board of freeholders shall provide a  
15 report to the Governor and to the Legislature evaluating the  
16 effectiveness of the program.

17 8. This act shall take effect 60 days after enactment.

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#### STATEMENT

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22 The provisions of this bill establish a pilot program in  
23 Burlington County to address the confusion which arises in  
24 municipalities having the same postal name, or which have  
25 multiple streets of the same name or inconsistent numbering of  
26 buildings on a particular street.

27 The bill permits the governing body of Burlington County, by  
28 resolution, to establish a 9-1-1 locatable mailing address system  
29 pursuant to the provisions of the bill. Under such a system, no  
30 two municipalities in Burlington County would be permitted to  
31 have exactly the same name, and a mechanism is provided in the  
32 bill to be used by Burlington County to effectuate a locatable  
33 mailing address system.

34 The provisions of the bill are especially important with respect  
35 to the implementation of a 9-1-1 emergency response system.  
36 As county governments extend present dispatching services to  
37 include the enhanced 9-1-1 program, the county governments  
38 must have the ability to ensure that the system of street  
39 addresses will not create confusion for emergency response  
40 teams, or police or fire vehicles, as they seek out persons in need  
41 of assistance. The current existence of postal names that are  
42 different from a municipality's name presents a severe problem  
43 for emergency response teams, police or firefighters seeking to  
44 respond in a timely fashion to an emergency circumstance. This  
45 problem has been documented, and extends beyond emergency  
46 dispatching to other governmental functions because statistics  
47 gathered on postal names or zip-codes cannot be applied to a  
48 municipality unless the boundaries of the postal delivery area and

1 the municipality are exactly the same. The experiences of the  
2 governing body of Burlington County in attempting to address this  
3 problem by virtue of the provisions of this bill, will provide  
4 valuable knowledge and insight to the other counties in the State  
5 facing such local inconsistencies.

6 Enactment of the 9-1-1 locatable mailing address system will  
7 also enhance the business climate in Burlington County by  
8 facilitating all deliveries and eliminating the dual address files  
9 maintained by all utilities and many service and delivery  
10 companies.

11 The 9-1-1 locatable mailing address system will also facilitate  
12 the delivery of census forms in Burlington County and insure that  
13 the tabulation of all data is easily and correctly accomplished  
14 with respect to Burlington County.

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#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT

18

19 Provides for a standard 9-1-1 locatable mailing address system  
20 pilot program for Burlington County.

ASSEMBLY COUNTY GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 4291

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: APRIL 29, 1991

The Assembly County Government Committee reports favorably Assembly No. 4291.

Assembly Bill No. 4291 establishes a pilot program in Burlington County to address the confusion which arises in municipalities having the same postal name, or which have multiple streets of the same name or inconsistent numbering of buildings on a particular street.

The bill permits the governing body of Burlington County, by resolution, to establish a 9-1-1 locatable mailing address system pursuant to the provisions of the bill. Under such a system, no two municipalities in Burlington County would be permitted to have exactly the same name, and a mechanism is provided in the bill to be used by Burlington County to effectuate a locatable mailing address system.

The sponsors of Assembly Bill No. 4291 believe that the provisions of the bill are especially important with respect to the implementation of a 9-1-1 emergency response system. As county governments extend present dispatching services to include the enhanced 9-1-1 program, the county governments must have the ability to ensure that the system of street addresses will not create confusion for emergency response teams, or police or fire vehicles, as they seek out persons in need of assistance. The current existence of postal names that are different from a municipality's name presents a severe problem for emergency response teams, police or firefighters seeking to respond in a timely fashion to an emergency circumstance. This problem has been documented, and extends beyond emergency dispatching to other governmental functions because statistics gathered on postal names or zip-codes cannot be applied to a municipality unless the boundaries of the postal delivery area and the municipality are exactly the same. The experiences of the governing body of Burlington County, in attempting to address this problem by virtue of the provisions of this bill, will provide valuable knowledge and insight to the other counties in the State facing such local inconsistencies.

The sponsors believe that enactment of the 9-1-1 locatable mailing address system will also enhance the business climate in Burlington County by facilitating all deliveries and eliminating the dual address files maintained by all utilities and many service and delivery companies.

SENATE COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL  
GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

**ASSEMBLY, No. 4291**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JUNE 10, 1991

The Senate County and Municipal Government Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4291.

Assembly Bill No. 4291 establishes a pilot program in Burlington County to address the confusion which arises in municipalities having the same postal name or which have multiple streets of the same name or inconsistent numbering of buildings on a particular street.

The bill requires the governing body of Burlington County, by resolution, to establish a 9-1-1 locatable mailing address system and provides guidelines for municipalities to follow in implementing this system. The bill singles out Burlington County since it is a large county in which several municipalities have the same postal name, several streets within municipalities have similar names, and many residents of municipalities in the county have experienced difficulty when needing emergency services due to these circumstances, according to the findings and declarations.

The bill prohibits two municipalities from having exactly the same name. If two or more municipalities within the county have the same name, the municipality which incorporated first under its existing name shall retain the right to continue using that name. The bill requires the county to make such changes in its address system as: adjusting the naming and numbering of streets to ensure that there is only one correct name for each street; eliminating confusing street names; numbering of streets from a logical point of origin; and the adoption of an odd-even numbering system on opposite sides of a street.

The bill requires the county governing body to assist any municipality unable to accomplish the property numbering or street name corrections if financial hardship exists or technical assistance is required. The bill places no time deadline on the achievement of a locatable mailing address system, but requires that the work be completed "as soon as is practical and in combination with preparations for the implementation of the mandated enhanced 9-1-1 program."

The bill's sponsors believe that the establishment of a locatable mailing address system is especially important because, as county governments extend present dispatching services to include the enhanced 9-1-1 program, county governments must have the ability

to ensure that the system of street addresses will not create confusion for emergency response teams, or police or fire vehicles. The experiences of Burlington County will provide valuable knowledge and insight to the other counties in the State facing the same problem.