

# KANAWHA COUNTY COMMISSION

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Ben Salango  
Commissioner

W. Kent Carper  
Commissioner

Lance Wheeler  
Commissioner

December 8, 2021

**VIA EMAIL: 2021legislativelegation@kanawha.us**

The Honorable Dana Ferrell, WV House of Delegates  
The Honorable Chris Pritt, WV House of Delegates  
The Honorable Dianna Graves, WV House of Delegates  
The Honorable Jim Barach, WV House of Delegates  
The Honorable Kayla Young, WV House of Delegates  
The Honorable Larry Pack, WV House of Delegates  
The Honorable Larry Rowe, WV House of Delegates  
The Honorable Moore Capito, WV House of Delegates  
The Honorable Doug Skaff, WV House of Delegates  
The Honorable Dean Jeffries, WV House of Delegates  
The Honorable Austin Haynes, WV House of Delegates  
The Honorable Kayla Kessinger, WV House of Delegates  
The Honorable Mike Pushkin, WV House of Delegates  
The Honorable Tom Fast, WV House of Delegates  
The Honorable Eric Nelson WV State Senate  
The Honorable Tom Takubo, WV State Senate  
The Honorable Richard Lindsay, WV State Senate  
The Honorable Glenn Jefferies, WV State Senate

Dear Honorable Delegates and Honorable Senators:

The Kanawha County Commission has repeatedly expressed our concerns with House Joint Resolution 3, the "Property Tax Modernization Amendment." Unlike other recent legislative proposals to amend the Constitution, HJR3 did not include a plan for implementing the proposed tax changes or a plan for replacement revenue for local governments. As it stands, when voters go to the polls next November, they will be asked to amend the State Constitution without knowing the full - and potentially devastating - impact on local government, 911, police, fire and EMS.

In regard to local government services, we believe it would be helpful to share the following information with you. On the morning of December 8<sup>th</sup> 2021, a snow band passed through Kanawha County during the morning rush hour. This was a seemingly minor weather event that required *significant* response from the first responders in your county.

From 5:30am to 10:0am on 12/8/2021, Metro 911 of Kanawha County received **523 total calls**, and dispatched calls for service as follows:



- 44 Accidents, including 30 calls ran by the Kanawha County Ambulance Authority
- 22 Wreckers
- 92 Law Enforcement calls by agency: KCSO 31 calls, CPD 25 calls, SCPD 7 calls, DBPD 8 calls, SAPD 7 calls, NTPD 13 calls.
- 42 Fire Department calls, including 2 structure fires, by agency: Charleston FD 5 calls, Nitro FD 10 calls, St. Albans 4 calls, Dunbar 3 calls, South Charleston 3 calls, Clendenin 3 calls, Pinch 6 calls, Malden 2 calls, Alum Creek 1 Call, Davis Creek 1 call, Tyler Mtn 4 calls, Institute 1 Call, Sissonville 5 Calls
- 40 Total medical calls (including 1 cardiac arrest)
- 26 Public and/or media notifications for weather or road condition related incidents

These numbers are important because they show everything our first responders do – from 911 dispatch, to police, fire, and EMS – even in response to a fairly typical weather event.

We appreciate the opportunity to describe the County’s response to the December 8<sup>th</sup> snow event and to again express our serious concerns with HJR3 and its potential to drastically cut local government. We also thank you for your past support of our county and our first responders, and we ask for your continued support during the upcoming Legislative Session.

Sincerely,



W. Kent Carper  
President



Ben Salango  
Commissioner



Lance Wheeler  
Commissioner