

**As Reported by the House County and Township Government**

**125th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2003-2004**

**H. B. No. 255**

**Representatives Setzer, Seitz, C. Evans, Kearns, Price, McGregor, Chandler,  
Domenick, Collier, Flowers, Wolpert**

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**A B I L L**

To amend section 505.511 of the Revised Code to 1  
increase the charges for responding in townships 2  
to certain security alarm system false alarms and 3  
to earmark the moneys a township so collects for 4  
police services. 5

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 505.511 of the Revised Code be 6  
amended to read as follows: 7

**Sec. 505.511.** (A) A board of township trustees that operates 8  
a township police department or the board of township trustees of 9  
a township police district may, after police constables, the 10  
township police, a law enforcement agency with which the township 11  
contracts for police services, and the county sheriff or the 12  
sheriff's deputy have answered a combined total of three false 13  
alarms ~~resulting from the malfunction of~~ the same commercial or 14  
residential security alarm system within the township in the same 15  
calendar year, cause the township clerk to mail the manager of the 16  
commercial establishment or the occupant, lessee, agent, or tenant 17  
of the residence, ~~a bill for twenty five dollars~~ for each 18  
subsequent false alarm from the same alarm system during that 19

year, to defray the costs incurred. ~~If~~ The bill's amount shall be 20  
as follows: 21

(1) For the fourth false alarm of that year .....\$50.00; 22

(2) For the fifth false alarm of that year .....\$100.00; 23

(3) For all false alarms in that year occurring after the 24  
fifth false alarm .....\$150.00. 25

If payment of the bill is not received within thirty days, 26  
the township clerk shall send a notice by certified mail to the 27  
manager and to the owner, if different, of the real estate of 28  
which the commercial establishment is a part, or to the occupant, 29  
lessee, agent, or tenant and to the owner, if different, of the 30  
real estate of which the residence is a part, indicating that 31  
failure to pay the bill within thirty days, or to show just cause 32  
why the bill should not be paid, will result in the assessment of 33  
a ~~twenty five dollar~~ lien upon the real estate in the amount of 34  
the bill. If payment is not received within those thirty days or 35  
if just cause is not shown, the ~~sum of twenty five dollars~~ amount 36  
of the bill shall be entered upon the tax duplicate, shall be a 37  
lien upon the real estate from the date of the entry, and shall be 38  
collected as other taxes and returned to the township ~~general fund~~ 39  
treasury to be earmarked for use for police services. ~~The~~ 40

The board of township trustees shall not cause the township 41  
clerk to send a bill pursuant to this division if a bill has 42  
already been sent pursuant to division (B) of this section for the 43  
same false alarm. 44

(B) The county sheriff may, after the county sheriff or the 45  
sheriff's deputy, police constables, the township police, and a 46  
law enforcement agency with which the township contracts for 47  
police services have answered a combined total of three false 48  
alarms ~~resulting from the malfunction of~~ the same commercial or 49

residential security alarm system within the unincorporated area 50  
of the county in the same calendar year, mail the manager of the 51  
commercial establishment or the occupant, lessee, agent, or tenant 52  
of the residence a bill ~~for twenty five dollars~~ for each 53  
subsequent false alarm from the same alarm system during that 54  
year, to defray the costs incurred. ~~If~~ The bill's amount shall be 55  
as follows: 56

(1) For the fourth false alarm of that year .....\$50.00; 57

(2) For the fifth false alarm of that year .....\$100.00; 58

(3) For all false alarms in that year occurring after the 59  
fifth false alarm .....\$150.00. 60

If payment of the bill is not received within thirty days, 61  
the sheriff shall send a notice by certified mail to the manager 62  
and to the owner, if different, of the real estate of which the 63  
commercial establishment is a part, or to the occupant, lessee, 64  
agent, or tenant and to the owner, if different, of the real 65  
estate of which the residence is a part, indicating that ~~the~~ 66  
failure to pay the bill within thirty days, or to show just cause 67  
why the bill should not be paid, will result in the assessment of 68  
a ~~twenty five dollar~~ lien upon the real estate in the amount of 69  
the bill. If payment is not received within those thirty days or 70  
if just cause is not shown, the ~~sum of twenty five dollars~~ amount 71  
of the bill shall be entered upon the tax duplicate, shall be a 72  
lien upon the real estate from the date of the entry, and shall be 73  
collected as other taxes and returned to the county treasury. ~~The~~ 74

The sheriff shall not send a bill pursuant to this division 75  
if a bill has already been sent pursuant to division (A) of this 76  
section for the same false alarm. 77

(C) As used in this section, "commercial establishment" has 78  
the same meaning as in section 505.391 of the Revised Code. 79

**Section 2.** That existing section 505.511 of the Revised Code 80

is hereby repealed.