

Introduced by

Senators Miller, Dotzenrod, Oehlke, Unruh

Representative Gruchalla

1 A BILL for an Act to create two new sections to chapter 37-17.3 of the North Dakota Century
2 Code, relating to statewide integrated radio communication; to provide for a legislative
3 management study; and to provide an appropriation.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 37-17.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Legislative declaration - Statewide integrated radio communication system service.**

8 ~~The legislative assembly finds that effective radio communication is vital to public safety~~
9 ~~and effective emergency response and law enforcement and declares that a statewide~~
10 ~~integrated radio communication system will more effectively serve the goals of law enforcement~~
11 ~~and emergency response personnel and thereby better serve the people of North Dakota.~~
12 ~~Segregated radio systems operated by local jurisdictions serve those jurisdictions adequately~~
13 ~~but result in a fractured, nonintegrated radio communication system that does not provide~~
14 ~~redundant capability that can serve neighboring jurisdictions and impedes the evolution of a~~
15 ~~more effective, statewide integrated radio communication system that would better serve the~~
16 ~~public.~~ The legislative assembly finds that effective radio communication is vital to public safety
17 and effective emergency response and law enforcement and declares that a statewide
18 integrated radio communication system will more effectively serve the goals of law enforcement
19 and emergency response personnel and thereby better serve the people of North Dakota.
20 Existing radio systems operated by local jurisdictions serve those jurisdictions adequately, but
21 do not provide the protection and benefits to the citizens of North Dakota that new digital
22 networks being utilized in neighboring states offer.

23 **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 37-17.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
24 and enacted as follows:

1 **Statewide interoperability board.**

- 2 1. The statewide interoperability board consists of:
- 3 a. The director of state radio or a designee;
- 4 b. The director of the division of homeland security or a designee;
- 5 ~~b.c.~~ The superintendent of the highway patrol or a designee;
- 6 ~~e.d.~~ The adjutant general or a designee;
- 7 ~~d.e.~~ The director of the department of transportation or a designee;
- 8 ~~e.f.~~ A representative of the North Dakota sheriff's and deputies association;
- 9 ~~f.g.~~ A representative of the North Dakota emergency managers association;
- 10 ~~g.h.~~ A representative of the North Dakota fire chiefs association;
- 11 ~~h.i.~~ A representative of the North Dakota emergency medical services association;
- 12 j. A representative of the North Dakota police chiefs association;
- 13 ~~i.k.~~ A representative of the North Dakota 911 association; and
- 14 ~~j.l.~~ The North Dakota chief information officer or a designee.
- 15 2. The board shall elect a chairman and vice chairman for terms of two years upon its
- 16 initial meeting. The adjutant general shall call and convene the initial meeting.
- 17 3. The board shall provide for key components and provide for support of key
- 18 components necessary to support the deployment of a statewide integrated radio
- 19 communication system and shall provide for financial and technical assistance to local
- 20 jurisdictions to transition to the system.
- 21 4. The board shall manage a statewide integrated radio system with due consideration
- 22 for all stakeholders reliant upon a radio communication system.

23 **SECTION 3. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY.** During the 2013-15 biennium, to

24 assist with the development of a statewide interoperability plan, the legislative management

25 shall ~~consider studying issues related to the development of the current radio communication-~~

26 ~~plan, its costs and components, and evolving technologies that will better serve the public. The~~

27 ~~study must include the input of stakeholders, including those members represented on the~~

28 ~~board~~ study issues relating to the development of the current radio communication plan, its costs

29 and components, and evolving technologies that will better serve the public. The study must

30 include the input of stakeholders statewide, including local city, local county, and state public

31 service and public safety entities, including those members represented on the board.

1 **SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general
2 fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of ~~\$5,000,000~~\$100,000, or so
3 much of the sum as may be necessary, to the statewide interoperability board for the purpose of
4 purchasing necessary equipment at the state level to begin development of the statewide
5 integrated radio communication program and to purchase ~~equipment to integrate into the state-~~
6 ~~system at Grand Forks, Fargo, Wahpeton, Jamestown, and Bismarck~~project 25 standards-
7 based centralized core dispatch equipment to integrate into a statewide dispatch network open
8 to all city, county, and state agencies within North Dakota, for the biennium beginning July 1,
9 2013, and ending June 30, 2015. ~~Funds must be allocated~~The statewide interoperability board
10 shall allocate funds through grant requests solicited, reviewed, and approved by the statewide
11 interoperability board in a manner that will most effectively move the state toward an integrated
12 radio communication system.