

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE – GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

DIVISION

MARCH 10, 2025

TESTIMONY OF STEVEN HARSTAD

BUREAU OF CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION

HOUSE BILL 1016

Chairman Wanzek and Members of the Senate Appropriations Committee – Government Operations Division, my name is Steven Harstad and I am a Chief Agent with the Bureau of Criminal Investigation submitting testimony in support of HB1016. The appropriations outlined in HB1016 are essential for advancing the operational capabilities of State Radio and ensuring the reliability of critical infrastructure law enforcement agencies rely upon.

Specifically, the funding requested for the SIRN-compatible logger/recorder will allow State Radio to log audio for 9-1-1 calls and radio traffic. In conjunction with the new SIRN radio system, the logger will have the capability to log an individual officer radio stream or all radio streams for an event.

In addition, the funding for improvements to the Message Switch/OpenFox system addresses vulnerabilities in the current framework. These updates will eliminate a single point of failure and enhance system redundancy, helping to ensure uninterrupted communication during an emergency.

These advancements directly benefit law enforcement agencies across the state. I respectfully ask for your support of these items in HB1016.