

HOUSE FILE _____
BY BERRY, KRESSIG, and KELLEY

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to public safety communications by establishing
2 an Iowa statewide interoperable radio system board.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
4 TLSB 1712HH 82
5 rn/es/88

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1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 80.28 STATEWIDE INTEROPERABLE
1 2 RADIO SYSTEM BOARD == ESTABLISHED == MEMBERS.
1 3 1. A statewide interoperable radio system board is
1 4 established, under the joint purview of the department and the
1 5 state department of transportation. The board shall develop,
1 6 implement, and oversee policy, operations, and fiscal
1 7 components of communications interoperability efforts at the
1 8 state and local level, and coordinate with similar efforts at
1 9 the federal level, with the ultimate objective of developing
1 10 and overseeing the operation of a statewide integrated public
1 11 safety communications interoperability system. For the
1 12 purposes of this section and section 80.29, "interoperability"
1 13 means the ability of public safety and public services
1 14 personnel to communicate and to share data on an immediate
1 15 basis, on demand, when needed, and when authorized.
1 16 2. The board shall consist of fifteen voting members, as
1 17 follows:
1 18 a. The following members representing state agencies:
1 19 (1) One member representing the department of public
1 20 safety, who shall serve as chairperson.
1 21 (2) One member representing the state department of
1 22 transportation, who shall serve as vice chairperson.
1 23 (3) One member representing the homeland security and
1 24 emergency management division.
1 25 (4) One member representing the department of corrections.
1 26 (5) One member representing the department of natural
1 27 resources.
1 28 (6) One member representing the Iowa department of public
1 29 health.
1 30 b. The following members, to be appointed by the governor:
1 31 (1) Two members who are chiefs of police.
1 32 (2) Two members who are sheriffs.
1 33 (3) Two members who are fire chiefs.
1 34 (4) Two law communication center managers employed by
1 35 state or local government agencies.
2 1 (5) One at-large member.
2 2 3. Board members shall be appointed in compliance with
2 3 sections 69.16 and 69.16A. The members appointed by the
2 4 governor shall be appointed to three-year staggered terms and
2 5 the terms shall commence and end as provided by section 69.19.
2 6 If a vacancy occurs, a successor shall be appointed to serve
2 7 the unexpired term. A successor shall be appointed in the
2 8 same manner and subject to the same qualifications as the
2 9 original appointment to serve the unexpired term. Members of
2 10 the board are entitled to receive reimbursement for actual
2 11 expenses incurred while engaged in the performance of official
2 12 duties from funds appropriated to the department of public
2 13 safety and the state department of transportation for that
2 14 purpose. The departments shall enter into an agreement to
2 15 provide administrative assistance and support to the board.
2 16 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 80.29 BOARD DUTIES.
2 17 The statewide interoperable radio system board established
2 18 in section 80.28 shall:
2 19 1. Implement and maintain organizational and operational

2 20 elements of the board, including staffing and program
2 21 activity.
2 22 2. Review and monitor communications interoperability
2 23 performance and service levels on behalf of agencies.
2 24 3. Establish, monitor, and maintain appropriate policies
2 25 and protocols to ensure that interoperable communications
2 26 systems function properly.
2 27 4. Allocate and oversee state appropriations or other
2 28 funding received for interoperable communications.
2 29 5. Identify sources for ongoing, sustainable, longer-term
2 30 funding for communications interoperability projects,
2 31 including available and future assets that will leverage
2 32 resources and provide incentives for communications
2 33 interoperability participation, and develop and obtain
2 34 adequate funding in accordance with a communications
2 35 interoperability sustainability plan.
3 1 6. Develop and evaluate potential legislative solutions to
3 2 address the funding and resource challenges of implementing
3 3 statewide communications interoperability initiatives.
3 4 7. Develop a statewide integrated public safety
3 5 communications interoperability system that allows for shared
3 6 communications systems and costs, takes into account
3 7 infrastructure needs and requirements, improves reliability,
3 8 and addresses liability concerns of the shared network.
3 9 8. Investigate data and video interoperability systems.
3 10 9. Expand, maintain, and fund consistent, periodic
3 11 training programs for current communications systems and for
3 12 the statewide integrated public safety communications
3 13 interoperability system as it is implemented.
3 14 10. Expand, maintain, and fund stakeholder education,
3 15 public education, and public official education programs to
3 16 demonstrate the value of short-term communications
3 17 interoperability solutions, and to emphasize the importance of
3 18 developing and funding long-term solutions, including
3 19 implementation of the statewide integrated public safety
3 20 communications interoperability system.
3 21 11. Identify, promote, and provide incentives for
3 22 appropriate collaborations and partnerships among government
3 23 entities, agencies, businesses, organizations, and
3 24 associations, both public and private, relating to
3 25 communications interoperability.
3 26 12. Provide incentives to support maintenance and
3 27 expansion of regional efforts to promote implementation of the
3 28 statewide integrated public safety communications
3 29 interoperability system.
3 30 13. Submit a report by January 1, annually, to the members
3 31 of the general assembly regarding communications
3 32 interoperability efforts, activities, and effectiveness at the
3 33 local and regional level, and shall include a status report
3 34 regarding the development of a statewide integrated public
3 35 safety communications interoperability system, and funding
4 1 requirements relating thereto.

4 2 EXPLANATION

4 3 This bill concerns public safety communications and
4 4 enhancement of statewide communications interoperability
4 5 efforts.
4 6 The bill establishes a statewide interoperable radio system
4 7 board, under the joint purview of the department of public
4 8 safety and the state department of transportation. The bill
4 9 specifies that the board shall develop, implement, and oversee
4 10 policy, operations, and fiscal components of communications
4 11 interoperability efforts at the state and local level,
4 12 coordinate with similar efforts at the federal level, and
4 13 ultimately develop and oversee the operation of a statewide
4 14 integrated public safety communications interoperability
4 15 system. The bill defines "interoperability" as the ability of
4 16 public safety and public services personnel to communicate and
4 17 to share data on an immediate basis, on demand, when needed,
4 18 and when authorized.
4 19 The bill identifies 15 members of the board, all voting
4 20 members, and states that members not affiliated with or
4 21 representing a state agency shall be appointed by the
4 22 governor.
4 23 The bill includes provisions relating to the appointment of
4 24 members, terms of service, and vacancies. The bill states
4 25 that members shall receive reimbursement for actual expenses
4 26 incurred while engaged in the performance of official duties
4 27 from funds appropriated to the departments for that purpose,
4 28 and that the departments shall enter into an agreement to
4 29 provide administrative assistance and support to the board.
4 30 Regarding the duties of the board, the bill provides that

4 31 the board shall implement and maintain organizational and
4 32 operational elements of the board; review and monitor
4 33 communications interoperability performance and service levels
4 34 on behalf of participating agencies; establish, monitor, and
4 35 maintain appropriate policies and protocols to ensure that
5 1 interoperable communications systems function properly;
5 2 allocate and oversee state appropriations or other funding
5 3 received; identify longer-term funding sources for
5 4 communications interoperability projects, including assets
5 5 that will leverage resources and provide incentives for
5 6 communications interoperability participation; and develop and
5 7 obtain adequate funding in accordance with a communications
5 8 interoperability sustainability plan. The board shall,
5 9 additionally, develop a statewide integrated public safety
5 10 communications interoperability system that allows for shared
5 11 communications systems and costs, takes into account
5 12 infrastructure needs and requirements, improves reliability,
5 13 and addresses liability concerns of the shared network;
5 14 identify legislative solutions which could provide assistance
5 15 to the enhancement of communications interoperability;
5 16 investigate data and video interoperability systems, and
5 17 expand, maintain, and fund training programs relating to
5 18 current and long-term communications interoperability efforts.
5 19 Further, the board is directed to identify, promote, and
5 20 provide incentives for appropriate collaborations and
5 21 partnerships relating to communications interoperability and
5 22 to provide incentives to support maintenance and expansion of
5 23 regional efforts to promote implementation of the integrated
5 24 statewide public safety communications interoperability
5 25 system.

5 26 The bill provides that the board shall submit a report by
5 27 January 1, annually, to the members of the general assembly
5 28 regarding communications interoperability efforts, activities,
5 29 and effectiveness at the local and regional level. The report
5 30 is to include the status of efforts to develop the statewide
5 31 integrated public safety communications interoperability
5 32 system and funding requirements.

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