

Senator Wayne A. Harper proposes the following substitute bill:

PUBLIC SAFETY AMENDMENTS

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper

House Sponsor: Brad L. Dee

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions of the Utah Communications Authority Act.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ authorizes the Utah Communications Authority Board to commission a performance audit and study of the state's 911 emergency response system within the public safety communications network, which study shall include:
 - determining potential cost savings that may be achieved by the functional consolidation of public safety answering points; and
 - creating a strategic plan for the state's 911 emergency response system;
- ▶ limits the use of expenditures from the Unified Statewide 911 Emergency Service

Account during the study; and

- ▶ makes technical changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None



26 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

27 AMENDS:

28 **63H-7-103**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2014, Chapter 320

29 ENACTS:

30 **63H-7-206**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

31

32 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

33 Section 1. Section **63H-7-103** is amended to read:

34 **63H-7-103. Definitions.**

35 As used in this chapter:

36 (1) "Authority" means the Utah Communications Authority, an independent state
37 agency created in Section **67H-7-201**.

38 (2) "Board" means the Utah Communications Authority Board created in Section
39 **67H-7-203**.

40 (3) "Bonds" means bonds, notes, certificates, debentures, contracts, lease purchase
41 agreements, or other evidences of indebtedness or borrowing issued or incurred by the
42 authority pursuant to this chapter.

43 ~~[(5)]~~ (4) "FirstNet" means the First Responder Network Authority created by Congress
44 in the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012.

45 ~~[(6)]~~ (5) "Lease" means any lease, lease purchase, sublease, operating, management, or
46 similar agreement.

47 ~~[(7)]~~ (6) "Local entity" means a county, city, town, local district, special service
48 district, or interlocal entity created under Title 11, Chapter 13, Interlocal Cooperation Act.

49 ~~[(8)]~~ (7) "Member" means a public agency which:

50 (a) adopts a membership resolution to be included within the authority; and

51 (b) submits an originally executed copy of an authorizing resolution to the authority's
52 office.

53 ~~[(9)]~~ (8) "Member representative" means a person or that person's designee appointed
54 by the governing body of each member.

55 ~~[(10)]~~ (9) "Public agency" means any political subdivision of the state, including cities,
56 towns, counties, school districts, local districts, and special service districts, dispatched by a

57 public safety answering point.

58 ~~[(H)]~~ (10) "Public safety answering point" or "PSAP" means an organization, entity, or
59 combination of entities ~~[which]~~ that have joined together to form a central answering point for
60 the receipt, management, and dissemination to the proper responding agency, of emergency and
61 nonemergency communications, including 911 communications, police, fire, emergency
62 medical, transportation, parks, wildlife, corrections, and any other governmental
63 communications.

64 ~~[(4)]~~ (11) "Public safety communications network" means:

65 (a) a regional or statewide public safety governmental communications network and
66 related facilities, including real property, improvements, and equipment necessary for the
67 acquisition, construction, and operation of the services and facilities; and

68 (b) 911 emergency services, including radio communications, microwave connectivity,
69 FirstNet coordination, and computer aided dispatch system.

70 (12) "State" means the state of Utah.

71 (13) "State representative" means the six appointees of the governor or their designees
72 and the Utah state treasurer or his designee.

73 Section 2. Section **63H-7-206** is enacted to read:

74 **63H-7-206. Functional consolidation of PSAPs study.**

75 (1) As used in this section:

76 (a) "Functional consolidation" means the process of ensuring that disparate public
77 safety answering points and public safety dispatching centers work together in an efficient and
78 effective way.

79 (b) "PSAP operator":

80 (i) means a public agency that operates a PSAP; and

81 (ii) does not include an institution of higher education, a school district, or an airport
82 authority that operates a PSAP.

83 (2) Beginning on or after July 1, 2015, the board shall commission and oversee a
84 performance audit and study of the state's 911 emergency response system and related elements
85 of the public safety communications network, which shall include:

86 (a) a review of statutory provisions and efforts of the Utah 911 Committee, the 911
87 program manager, and the Office of the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator regarding the

88 assessment, planning, rules, technology review, and standardization of the state's 911
89 emergency response system and related elements of the public safety communications network;
90 (b) working with state and local stakeholders to determine potential cost savings and
91 increases in quality and efficiency that may be achieved by the functional consolidation of
92 PSAPs and dispatch centers throughout the state, including recommendations regarding:
93 (i) an efficient and effective public safety communications management structure to
94 ensure that high quality 911 emergency services are available to the state's citizens;
95 (ii) common standard operating procedures that ensure the least amount of call
96 processing time;
97 (iii) efficient methods to transfer calls between PSAPs and from a PSAP to a first
98 responder, regardless of jurisdiction;
99 (iv) uniformity of equipment and software protocols to accomplish seamless
100 functionality between computer aided dispatch systems;
101 (v) interoperable telephonic and radio systems to ensure coordination between
102 jurisdictions; and
103 (vi) how unnecessary duplication of services may be reduced or eliminated;
104 (c) making recommendations for inclusion in the strategic plan for the state's 911
105 emergency response system and related elements of the public safety communications network,
106 which recommendations may include:
107 (i) how PSAPs may benefit from functional consolidation;
108 (ii) how PSAPs within designated regions may accept calls and provide emergency
109 communication services for first responders using interoperable equipment, software,
110 protocols, and standard operating procedures; and
111 (iii) how PSAPs, regardless of physical location, may operate on interoperable, shared,
112 or hosted technology platforms and with common policies to reduce the need to transfer calls
113 between PSAPs;
114 (d) describing and recommending potential solutions to the biggest impediments to
115 functional consolidation of PSAPs; and
116 (e) making recommendations regarding necessary personnel and associated job duties
117 within the Utah Communications Authority.
118 (3) On or before July 1, 2016, the performance audit and study described in Subsection

119 (2) shall be completed and submitted by the board in writing to the Law Enforcement and
120 Criminal Justice Interim Committee and the Retirement and Independent Entities Interim
121 Committee.

122 (4) (a) Money from the Unified Statewide 911 Emergency Service Account created in
123 Section 63H-7-304 may not be used to fund a new local PSAP, call taking, or dispatching
124 project before the completion of the performance audit and study described in Subsection (2),
125 unless the board determines that an exigent circumstance requires the allocation of funds.

126 (b) Money from the Unified Statewide 911 Emergency Service Account may be used to
127 fund ongoing maintenance of existing equipment and projects approved before July 1, 2015.

128 (5) After July 1, 2016, money spent from the Unified Statewide 911 Emergency
129 Service Account created in Section 63H-7-304 for projects, including state and local PSAP and
130 dispatching projects, shall be made after consideration of the:

131 (a) recommendations of the performance audit and study described in Subsection (2);
132 and

133 (b) strategic plan for the state's network 911 emergency response system and related
134 elements of the public safety communications network described in Subsection (2)(c).