



Legislative
Council Staff

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FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number:	LLS 18-1029	Date:	March 26, 2018
Prime Sponsors:	Rep. Hamner; Rankin Sen. Lambert	Bill Status:	House Appropriations
		Fiscal Analyst:	Kori Donaldson 303-866-4976 Kori.Donaldson@state.co.us

Bill Topic: DIGITAL TRUNKED RADIO SYSTEM COVERAGE GAPS

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

<input type="checkbox"/> State Revenue	<input type="checkbox"/> TABOR Refund
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Expenditure	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/> State Transfer	<input type="checkbox"/> Statutory Public Entity

This bill expands the allowable use of the Public Safety Communications Trust Fund (trust fund) and appropriates \$2.0 million from the General Fund to the trust fund for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20.

Appropriation Summary: For FY 2018-19, the bill requires and includes a \$2.0 million appropriation to the Governor's Office of Information Technology (OIT).

Fiscal Note Status: This fiscal note reflects the introduced bill, as recommended by the Joint Budget Committee as part of its FY 2018-19 budget package.

Table 1
State Fiscal Impacts Under HB 18-1325

		FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20
Revenue		-	-
Expenditures	General Fund	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
Transfers		-	-

Summary of Legislation

The bill expands the allowable use of the Public Safety Communications Trust Fund and directs OIT to use money in the trust fund to work in partnership with local and regional government entities to build additional radio towers in areas of the state that experience critical coverage gaps for public safety radio communications. Under current law, monies in the trust fund may be expended to replace legacy equipment and hardware at radio tower sites and for software upgrades. The bill directs a \$2.0 million General Fund appropriation for FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20 to the trust fund. The bill further directs a \$2.0 million appropriation from the trust fund to OIT in FY 2018-19.

Background

The Digital Trunked Radio System (DTRS) is a statewide two-way radio system for voice communications. In Colorado, about 1,000 local, state, and federal government agencies use the system in emergency situations to improve interagency cooperation and coordination. The system processes about 103 million transmissions a year. The infrastructure of the DTRS — including equipment, software, and radio towers — allows operators to communicate with and facilitate communication between first responders. An agency may opt to use the DTRS as its primary radio system or for interoperability only, especially during first responder situations. The DTRS is managed by OIT.

State Expenditures

Expenditures from the General Fund to the trust fund will increase by up to \$2.0 million a year in FY 2018-19 and FY 2019-20. OIT will use the monies to pay costs associated with constructing new DTRS radio towers in areas of the state with critical coverage gaps.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State Appropriations

The bill requires and includes a FY 2018-19 appropriation of \$2.0 million from the General Fund to the Public Safety Communications Trust Fund. This amount is then appropriated to OIT.

State and Local Government Contacts

Joint Budget Committee Staff

Information Technology