

Second Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 18-1029.01 Nicole Myers x4326

HOUSE BILL 18-1325

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Hamner and Rankin, Young

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Lambert, Lundberg, Moreno

House Committees
Appropriations

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING MEASURES TO ADDRESS COVERAGE GAPS IN THE
102 STATEWIDE DIGITAL TRUNKED RADIO SYSTEM, AND, IN
103 CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)

Joint Budget Committee. The statewide digital trunked radio system (DTRS) provides interoperable radio communications that allow personnel from multiple agencies in different levels of government to rapidly share information and coordinate efforts in emergency situations. While DTRS is considered one of the nation's most successful statewide

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

public safety communications voice networks, there are areas of the state that do not have adequate coverage on the DTRS network. This means public safety officials are unable to communicate with others when working in geographies with little to no coverage.

The general assembly established the public safety communications trust fund (trust fund) for the acquisition and maintenance of public safety communications systems, including the DTRS. Currently, through the 2024-25 fiscal year, the general assembly appropriates \$7.2 million each fiscal year from the general fund and other funds to the trust fund for purposes of the DTRS. The governor's office of information technology (office) is required to use the money for the replacement of legacy radio equipment and hardware at radio tower sites and for software upgrade assurance. Due to a one-time savings achieved through negotiations between the office and its DTRS software vendor, approximately \$3 million of the money appropriated to the trust fund to date is unexpended.

The bill authorizes the office to use any unencumbered and unexpended money appropriated for purposes of the DTRS on DTRS site supporting infrastructure and DTRS supporting software and hardware.

In addition, in both the 2018-19 and 2019-20 fiscal years, the bill requires the general assembly to appropriate an additional \$2 million from the general fund to the trust fund. The bill requires the office to use the money to work in partnership with local and regional government entities to add additional radio tower sites in areas of the state that are experiencing critical coverage gaps for public safety radio communications. The office is required to submit a report to the joint budget committee detailing the use of the additional \$2 million.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-37.5-506, **amend**
3 (2.5)(b); and **add** (2.5)(a)(III) and (2.7) as follows:

4 **24-37.5-506. Public safety communications trust fund -**
5 **creation.** (2.5) (a) (III) THE OFFICE MAY USE ANY UNENCUMBERED AND
6 UNEXPENDED MONEY APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS
7 (2.5)(a)(I) AND (2.5)(a)(II) OF THIS SECTION ON DIGITAL TRUNKED RADIO
8 SYSTEM SITE SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE AND DIGITAL TRUNKED RADIO
9 SYSTEM SUPPORTING SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE.

10 (b) On or before November 1, 2014, and on or before November

1 1 of each year thereafter through November 1, 2025, the office, in
2 consultation with the department of corrections, the department of natural
3 resources, the department of public safety, the department of
4 transportation, and any other state department OR LOCAL OR REGIONAL
5 GOVERNMENT deemed appropriate by the office, shall submit a report to
6 the joint budget committee of the general assembly detailing the use of
7 the moneys MONEY appropriated to the fund pursuant to ~~paragraph (a) of~~
8 ~~this subsection (2.5)~~ SUBSECTION (2.5)(a) OF THIS SECTION. The report
9 must include the following:

10 (I) Comprehensive documentation regarding the purposes for
11 which the moneys MONEY appropriated pursuant to ~~subparagraphs (I) and~~
12 ~~(II) of paragraph (a) of this subsection (2.5)~~ were SUBSECTION (2.5)(a) OF
13 THIS SECTION WAS used during the prior fiscal year and ~~are~~ IS being used
14 during the current fiscal year and the anticipated use of the moneys
15 MONEY that will be appropriated in future fiscal years;

16 (II) Of the total amount expended during the prior fiscal year for
17 each of the purposes specified in ~~subparagraphs (I) and (II) of paragraph~~
18 ~~(a) of this subsection (2.5)~~ SUBSECTIONS (2.5)(a)(I) AND (2.5)(a)(II) OF
19 THIS SECTION, the amount that was appropriated from the general fund
20 and the amount that was appropriated from any other fund; and

21 (III) For the appropriation or appropriations for the next fiscal
22 year, a recommendation regarding the amount to be appropriated from the
23 general fund and the amount to be appropriated from any other fund for
24 each of the purposes specified in ~~subparagraphs (I) and (II) of paragraph~~
25 ~~(a) of this subsection (2.5)~~ SUBSECTIONS (2.5)(a)(I) AND (2.5)(a)(II) OF
26 THIS SECTION.

27 (2.7) (a) IN BOTH THE 2018-19 AND 2019-20 FISCAL YEARS, THE

1 GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE TWO MILLION DOLLARS FROM
2 THE GENERAL FUND TO THE FUND. THE OFFICE SHALL USE THE MONEY
3 APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND PURSUANT TO THIS SUBSECTION (2.7) TO
4 WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNMENT
5 ENTITIES TO ADD ADDITIONAL RADIO TOWER SITES IN AREAS OF THE STATE
6 THAT ARE EXPERIENCING CRITICAL COVERAGE GAPS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY
7 RADIO COMMUNICATIONS. IN WORKING WITH LOCAL AND REGIONAL
8 GOVERNMENTS TO ADDRESS SUCH COVERAGE GAPS, THE OFFICE SHALL
9 PRIORITIZE THE FOLLOWING:

10 (I) LOCATIONS THAT HAVE EXISTING RADIO TOWER AND OTHER
11 INFRASTRUCTURE TO WHICH THE OFFICE MAY ADD EQUIPMENT;

12 (II) LOCATIONS IN WHICH A KNOWN PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO
13 COMMUNICATIONS COVERAGE ISSUE MAY BE ADDRESSED; AND

14 (III) LOCATIONS THAT PROVIDE A BENEFIT TO BOTH THE STATE
15 AND TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT FIRST RESPONDERS.

16 (b) ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2019, AND ON OR BEFORE
17 NOVEMBER 1, 2020, THE OFFICE, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL AND
18 REGIONAL GOVERNMENT ENTITIES AS THE OFFICE DEEMS APPROPRIATE,
19 SHALL SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE OF THE
20 GENERAL ASSEMBLY DETAILING THE USE OF THE MONEY APPROPRIATED TO
21 THE FUND PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2.7)(a) OF THIS SECTION. THE
22 REPORT MUST INCLUDE COMPREHENSIVE DOCUMENTATION REGARDING
23 THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE MONEY APPROPRIATED PURSUANT TO
24 SUBSECTION (2.7)(a) OF THIS SECTION WAS AND IS BEING USED DURING
25 THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR AND THE ANTICIPATED USE OF THE MONEY
26 THAT WILL BE APPROPRIATED IN THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR, IF APPLICABLE,
27 AND ANY OTHER INFORMATION DEEMED RELEVANT BY THE OFFICE.

1 **SECTION 2. Appropriation.** For the 2018-19 state fiscal year,
2 \$2,000,000 is appropriated to the office of the governor for use by the
3 office of information technology. This appropriation is from the public
4 safety communications trust fund created in section 24-37.5-506 (1),
5 C.R.S. To implement this act, the office may use this appropriation for the
6 public safety network.

7 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,
8 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
9 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.