



Legislative Council Staff

Nonpartisan Services for Colorado's Legislature

HB 18-1325

FINAL FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 18-1029 Date: May 30, 2018
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Hamner; Rankin Bill Status: Signed into Law
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Bill Topic: DIGITAL TRUNKED RADIO SYSTEM COVERAGE GAPS

- Summary of Fiscal Impact: State Revenue, State Expenditure, State Transfer, TABOR Refund, Local Government, 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 enacted 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

Table with 3 columns: Category, FY 2018-19, FY 2019-20. Rows include Revenue, Expenditures (General Fund), and 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 was signed into law by the Governor and took effect April 30, 2018.

## 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

Information Technology