CHAPTER 189

GOVERNMENT - STATE

HOUSE BILL 18-1325

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Hamner and Rankin, Young, Becker K., Catlin, Exum, Ginal, Herod, Jackson, Lee, Melton, Michaelson Jenet, Pettersen, Roberts, Rosenthal, Salazar, Singer, Valdez, Wilson, Duran; also SENATOR(S) Lambert, Lundberg, Moreno, Jahn, Kefalas, Tate.

AN ACT

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

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

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

24-37.5-506. Public safety communications trust fund - creation. (2.5) (a) (III) The office may use any unencumbered and unexpended money appropriated pursuant to subsections (2.5)(a)(I) and (2.5)(a)(II) of this section on digital trunked radio system site supporting infrastructure and digital trunked radio system supporting software and hardware.

(b) On or before November 1, 2014, and on or before November 1 of each year thereafter through November 1, 2025, the office, in consultation with the department of corrections, the department of natural resources, the department of public safety, the department of transportation, and any other state department or local or regional government deemed appropriate by the office, shall submit a report to the joint budget committee of the general assembly detailing the use of the monies appropriated to the fund pursuant to paragraph (a) of this subsection (2.5) of this section. The report must include the following:

(I) Comprehensive documentation regarding the purposes for which the monies appropriated pursuant to subparagraphs (I) and (II) of paragraph (a) of this subsection (2.5) were used during the prior fiscal year and are being used during the current fiscal year and the anticipated use of the monies that will be appropriated in future fiscal years;

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.
(II) Of the total amount expended during the prior fiscal year for each of the purposes specified in subparagraphs (I) and (II) of paragraph (a) of this subsection (2.5) of this section, the amount that was appropriated from the general fund and the amount that was appropriated from any other fund; and

(III) For the appropriation or appropriations for the next fiscal year, a recommendation regarding the amount to be appropriated from the general fund and the amount to be appropriated from any other fund for each of the purposes specified in subparagraphs (I) and (II) of paragraph (a) of this subsection (2.5) of this section.

(2.7) (a) In both the 2018-19 and 2019-20 fiscal years, the general assembly shall appropriate two million dollars from the general fund to the fund. The office shall use the money appropriated to the fund pursuant to this subsection (2.7) 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. In working with local and regional governments to address such coverage gaps, the office shall prioritize the following:

(I) Locations that have existing radio tower and other infrastructure to which the office may add equipment;

(II) Locations in which a known public safety radio communications coverage issue may be addressed; and

(III) Locations that provide a benefit to both the state and to local government first responders.

(b) On or before November 1, 2019, and on or before November 1, 2020, the office, in partnership with local and regional government entities as the office deems appropriate, shall submit a report to the joint budget committee of the general assembly detailing the use of the money appropriated to the fund pursuant to subsection (2.7)(a) of this section. The report must include comprehensive documentation regarding the purposes for which the money appropriated pursuant to subsection (2.7)(a) of this section was and is being used during the current fiscal year and the anticipated use of the money that will be appropriated in the next fiscal year, if applicable, and any other information deemed relevant by the office.

SECTION 2. Appropriation. (1) For the 2018-19 state fiscal year, $2,000,000 is appropriated to the public safety communications trust fund created in section 24-37.5-506 (1), C.R.S. This appropriation is from the general fund. The office of the governor is responsible for the accounting related to this appropriation.

(2) For the 2018-19 state fiscal year, $2,000,000 is appropriated to the office of the governor for use by the office of information technology. This appropriation is
from reappropriated funds in the public safety communications trust fund under subsection (1) of this section. To implement this act, the office of information technology may use this appropriation for the public safety network.

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

Approved: April 30, 2018