H-1537.1 _____

HOUSE BILL 1952
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State of Washington   **59th Legislature**   **2005 Regular Session**

By Representatives Morris, O'Brien, Lovick, Ericks, Anderson and Kilmer

Read first time 02/11/2005.   Referred to Committee on Technology, Energy & Communications.

1   AN ACT Relating to a pilot program on interoperable communication
2 systems; and creating new sections.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4   NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Through the establishment of the state
5 interoperability executive committee, the legislature created the
6 authority to require all state agencies to have interoperable
7 communication systems. While the legislature intended to give the
8 committee the authority to mandate interoperable communication systems
9 among all state agencies, the legislature recognizes the autonomy of
10 local governments, and therefore understands that the pending
11 interoperable communication standards established by the committee, as
12 applied to local governments, are currently advisory rather than
13 mandatory.
14   While the pending interoperable communication standards established
15 by the committee are advisory to local governments, it is important
16 that local governments understand the importance of following the
17 direction set by the committee. To assist local governments to
18 understand this need and to motivate participation, the legislature is
19 establishing a local government interoperability communication system

1 pilot program. The legislature intends to limit the pilot program to
2 a county public safety agency that develops a funding partnership among
3 federal, state, and local government.
4   The legislature intends that the pilot program demonstrate to
5 local governments throughout the state of Washington the value of
6 implementing the pending interoperability standards being established
7 by the committee.

8   NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) On or before July 1, 2006, the state
9 interoperability executive committee, in consultation with the
10 information services board, shall award a five million dollar grant to
11 one county public safety agency. The agency shall be part of a county
12 with a population over four hundred thousand. The grant shall be
13 designed to assist a county public safety agency with developing a
14 communication system that is capable of interoperating with state
15 agencies, and other local governments.
16   (2) To be eligible for the grant, the county public safety agency
17 shall:
18   (a) By July 1, 2006, be awarded, or prove intent to be awarded, a
19 minimum of five million dollars from the federal government
20 specifically for the purpose of partnering with the state of Washington
21 to implement an interoperable communication system;
22   (b) Between July 1, 2004, and July 1, 2006, enact, by the vote of
23 the people, a countywide measure to fund public safety communication
24 equipment that raises a minimum of five million dollars;
25   (c) Agree that all communication equipment purchased by the public
26 agency, for the purposes of the pilot program, shall be digital
27 equipment that complies with P25 standards established by the
28 association of public safety communications officials, national
29 association of state telecommunication directors, and federal
30 government agencies, commonly referred to as "APCO/NASTD/FED"; and
31   (d) Comply with all current and future interoperability
32 communication standards adopted by the state interoperability executive
33 committee.

34   NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** If specific funding for the purposes of
35 funding the grant under section 2 of this act, in an amount of at least
36 five million dollars, is not provided by appropriation to the state

1   interoperability executive committee on or before July 1, 2006, or if
2   a grant is not awarded under section 2 of this act on or before July 1,
3   2006, the local government interoperability communication system pilot
4   program is null and void.

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