

FINAL BILL REPORT

SSB 5573

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Increasing membership of the state interoperability executive committee and foster radio system interoperability.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on State Government (originally sponsored by Senators McCoy, Hunt and Miloscia; by request of Office of the Chief Information Officer).

Senate Committee on State Government
House Committee on State Government, Elections & Information Technology

Background: State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC). The SIEC was established by the Legislature to:

- develop policies and makes recommendations for technical standards for state wireless radio communications systems;
- coordinate and manage the licensing and use of state designated/state-license radio frequencies;
- coordinate the purchase of all state wireless radio communications system equipment;
- seek possible federal or other funding;
- make recommendations to the Legislature; and
- foster cooperation and coordination among organizations and work with wireless communications groups and association to ensure interoperability among all public safety and emergency response communication systems.

The SIEC is appointed by the state chief information officer. Membership must include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Military Department;
- Washington State Patrol;
- Washington State Department of Transportation;
- Office of the Chief Information Officer;
- Department of Natural Resources;
- city and county governments, currently represented by the Association of Washington Cities and Association of Washington Counties
- state and local fire chiefs, currently represented by the State Fire Marshal and the Washington Fire Chiefs Association;
- police chiefs;
- sheriffs; and

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- state and local emergency management directors.

Voting membership may not exceed 15 members. The chair and legislative members of the board serve as nonvoting members of the committee.

P25 Standard. The P25 standard was developed to ensure the interoperability of two-way radio technology and provide specifications for interfaces between the various components of a land mobile radio system. Among other features, P25 radios can be operated in either digital or analog mode, conventional, or trunked systems.

Summary: The membership of the SIEC is expanded to include the Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Health, Department of Corrections, tribal nations, and public safety answering points.

Voting membership of the SIEC is increased to no more than 22 members, instead of 15.

Radio and land-mobile radio systems are required to be at a minimum P25 standard.

Public safety is defined as any entity or services that ensure the welfare and protection of the public.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	49	0
House	97	0

Effective: July 23, 2017