

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3
2 INTRODUCED BY E. MCCLAFFERTY

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4 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
5 MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF FUNDING OPTIONS FOR THE STATEWIDE
6 INTEROPERABLE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM.

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8 WHEREAS, deployment and implementation of a statewide interoperable public safety communications
9 system will enhance emergency response in Montana; and

10 WHEREAS, Interoperability Montana is a coalition of county, state, and tribal agencies that uniquely
11 places control of a statewide interoperable public safety communications system in the hands of local
12 jurisdictions; and

13 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of all Montanans to ensure adequate funding to support the complete
14 build-out, operations, maintenance, and administration of a statewide interoperable public safety communications
15 system for first responders and to provide emergency services to the people of Montana and visitors; and

16 WHEREAS, given the importance of public safety issues and the decline of funding from federal sources,
17 the completion of the statewide interoperable public safety communications system may take an additional 20
18 or more years; and

19 WHEREAS, stakeholders recognize that funding for operations, maintenance, and administration of any
20 statewide interoperable public safety communications system requires a sustainable revenue source provided
21 by the state.

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23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
24 STATE OF MONTANA:

25 That the Legislative Council be requested to designate an appropriate interim committee or statutory
26 committee, pursuant to section 5-5-217, MCA, or direct sufficient staff resources to:

27 (1) evaluate funding sources for the operations, maintenance, and administration of the statewide
28 interoperable public safety communications systems;

29 (2) identify funding sources for the complete build-out of the statewide interoperable public safety
30 communications system;

1 (3) investigate and identify potential funding mechanisms to ensure that public safety officials have
2 necessary emergency communications;

3 (4) clarify the project governance relationship with federal, tribal, state, and local partners in the
4 development and administration of the statewide interoperable public safety communications system; and

5 (5) propose legislation for consideration by the 63th Legislature establishing an appropriate level of
6 funding, if any, and an appropriate funding mechanism to facilitate ongoing administration, maintenance,
7 operation, and complete build-out of the statewide interoperable public safety communications system.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any funding mechanism proposed not discriminate among local
9 jurisdictions, tribal nations, or state and federal agencies.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if an end-user fee is proposed, it be equitable and efficient, be based
11 on verifiable actual costs that are not proprietary or confidential, and be associated only with the costs of a
12 statewide interoperable public safety communications system in Montana.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any study involve the participation of local, state, federal, and tribal
14 stakeholders, representatives of public safety user groups, including county commissioners, law enforcement
15 officials, disaster and emergency services coordinators, and 9-1-1 and emergency response groups, and other
16 stakeholders with an interest in the statewide interoperable public safety communications system.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the study is assigned to staff, any findings or conclusions be
18 presented to and reviewed by an appropriate committee designated by the Legislative Council.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review
20 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2012.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,
22 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 63th Legislature.

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