

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 7

INTRODUCED BY T. STEENBERG

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MONTANA REQUESTING AN INTERIM STUDY OF NEXT-GENERATION 9-1-1 IN MONTANA.

WHEREAS, deployment of next-generation 9-1-1 communications systems will enhance emergency response and public safety in Montana and will establish a foundation for public safety services in a wireless mobile society; and

WHEREAS, the current 9-1-1 system is built on landline telephone technology, which locates the caller based on a phone number's registered address, cannot exactly locate 9-1-1 calls made from a cell phone, and does not support text messages, photos, videos, and other multimedia; and

WHEREAS, next-generation 9-1-1 systems use secure internet protocol networks and geographic information systems (GIS) to automatically locate, validate, and route 9-1-1 calls from any phone and support voice, data, text, image, video, and multimedia; and

WHEREAS, current 9-1-1 systems are locally managed and are made up of disparate implementations that will not be conducive to efficient and effective next-generation 9-1-1 implementation; and

WHEREAS, current Montana statute is primarily focused on the implementation of basic and enhanced 9-1-1 systems and limits the ability for call centers to upgrade 9-1-1 systems and equipment; and

WHEREAS, in Montana there is no one entity with a mandate for planning, implementing, or maintaining the data and communication systems needed to support next-generation 9-1-1, while surrounding states are actively engaged in planning and implementing next-generation 9-1-1; and

WHEREAS, the demands and challenges of next generation 9-1-1 require a new and innovative approach and statewide coordination is a critical part of the solution.

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

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

- (1) evaluate how the state, local governments, and emergency responders can form a partnership to



- 1 begin planning for next-generation 9-1-1 in Montana;
- 2 (2) identify what legislative changes need to be made to implement next-generation 9-1-1 in Montana;
- 3 (3) identify funding requirements and potential funding sources needed to implement next-generation
- 4 9-1-1 in Montana;
- 5 (4) develop a plan for implementing a standards-based next-generation 9-1-1 system in Montana; and
- 6 (5) propose legislation for consideration by the 65th Legislature to enable implementation of
- 7 next-generation 9-1-1 in Montana.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any study involve the participation of local, state, federal, and tribal

9 stakeholders, including but not limited to the land information advisory council established in 90-1-405,

10 representatives of public safety user groups, including the department of administration's public safety

11 communications bureau, county commissioners, law enforcement officials, disaster and emergency services

12 coordinators, and 9-1-1 and emergency response groups, and other stakeholders with an interest in

13 next-generation 9-1-1.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the study is assigned to staff, any findings or conclusions be

15 presented to and reviewed by an appropriate committee designated by the Legislative Council.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all aspects of the study, including presentation and review

17 requirements, be concluded prior to September 15, 2016.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final results of the study, including any findings, conclusions,

19 comments, or recommendations of the appropriate committee, be reported to the 65th Legislature.

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