

# House Bill 3466

Sponsored by COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Finds that communications infrastructure of State Forestry Department represents large investment, is compatible with communications infrastructure of primary partners in responding to wildland fire emergencies and meets mandate of Federal Communications Commission.

Declares policy of this state that immediate conversion of department's infrastructure is not appropriate or necessary due to investment made, costs of conversion and incompatibilities that would be introduced with communications infrastructure of primary partnering entities.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to the Oregon Wireless Interoperability Network; amending section 1, chapter 825, Oregon  
3 Laws 2005.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 1, chapter 825, Oregon Laws 2005, is amended to read:

6 **Sec. 1.** (1) The Oregon Legislative Assembly finds **and declares** that:

7 (a) The public safety communications infrastructure of the State of Oregon is rapidly aging,  
8 outdated and at severe risk of failure;

9 (b) The adopted policies and standards and specific deadlines mandated by the Federal Commu-  
10 nications Commission will require replacement of statewide public safety communications  
11 infrastructure in the State of Oregon;

12 (c) The reliability of mission-critical public safety communications infrastructure during a man-  
13 made or natural disaster is crucial to saving lives and property and to protecting the public during  
14 an emergency;

15 (d) The deteriorating condition of our public safety radio systems is of immediate concern be-  
16 cause it compromises the safety and well-being of the citizens of the State of Oregon who depend  
17 upon lifesaving communications systems used by first responders;

18 (e) The majority of the communications systems in the State of Oregon are unreliable, greatly  
19 increasing the danger to first responders and law enforcement officers in carrying out their duty to  
20 protect the citizens and property of the State of Oregon;

21 (f) It is in the public interest of Oregonians to plan for improvement of the public safety com-  
22 munications infrastructure to ensure long-term stability; and

23 (g) Federal funding for homeland security may be available to facilitate all or part of the de-  
24 velopment and implementation of a plan for improvement of the public safety communications  
25 infrastructure in the State of Oregon.

26 (2) **Subject to subsection (3) of this section, the Legislative Assembly finds and declares**  
27 **that** it is the policy of the State of Oregon:

28 (a) To develop, finance, maintain and operate a single emergency response wireless communi-  
29 cations infrastructure that supports both the communications needs of all state agencies and ensures

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 communications interoperability among all state, local, tribal and federal public safety agencies,  
2 thereby maximizing shared use of this invaluable public asset.

3 (b) To meet Federal Communications Commission mandates for the conversion of public safety  
4 communications frequencies and spectrum allocation by 2013.

5 **(3) The Legislative Assembly further finds and declares that:**

6 **(a) The communications infrastructure of the State Forestry Department is not rapidly**  
7 **aging, outdated or at severe risk of failure because the department has made regular and**  
8 **costly investments in its communications infrastructure;**

9 **(b) The communications infrastructure of the department meets the policies and stan-**  
10 **dards mandated by the Federal Communications Commission;**

11 **(c) The mission-critical public safety communications infrastructure of the department**  
12 **is:**

13 **(A) Crucial to saving lives and property and to protecting the public during an emer-**  
14 **gency;**

15 **(B) Reliable and not in rapidly deteriorating condition; and**

16 **(C) Compatible with the communications infrastructure utilized by other federal and**  
17 **state agencies and private partners that are primarily responsible for responding to wildland**  
18 **fire emergencies;**

19 **(d) The department should continue to partner with and advise other public safety**  
20 **agencies regarding implementation of the Public Safety Wireless Infrastructure Replacement**  
21 **Plan developed under section 2, chapter 825, Oregon Laws 2005, and the Oregon Interoperable**  
22 **Communication Plan described in ORS 403.455; and**

23 **(e) Immediate conversion of the communications infrastructure of the department for**  
24 **compatibility with the Oregon Wireless Interoperability Network is not appropriate or nec-**  
25 **essary, considering:**

26 **(A) The large investment already made and the high cost of conversion;**

27 **(B) The disruption and incompatibility that would be caused with the communications**  
28 **infrastructure of other federal and state agencies and private partners with whom the de-**  
29 **partment shares primary responsibility to respond to wildland fire emergencies; and**

30 **(C) That the department's communications infrastructure already conforms to the poli-**  
31 **cies and standards mandated by the Federal Communications Commission.**

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