



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, M.D., Governor

Department of Transportation

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TO: House Committee on Veterans' Services and Emergency Preparedness

FROM: Tom Lauer
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SUBJECT: Transfer of the SIEC from ODOT to DAS

INTRODUCTION

House Bill 4031 transfers the State Interoperability Executive Council from the Oregon Department of Transportation to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services and modifies the duties of the executive council. The bill establishes the position of Statewide Interoperability Coordinator to support the executive council and to coordinate implementation of the Oregon Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan.

BACKGROUND

The Oregon State Interoperability Executive Council (SIEC), created by Governor's Executive Order 02-17 in 2002, is charged with improving and developing interoperable public safety communication systems in Oregon. Interoperability means providing for the ability for public safety officers and first responders to talk to one another—efficiently, timely and effectively.

The 17 voting members of the SIEC represent a unique partnership of state and local public safety organizations that have a strong interest in the creation and operation of public safety communication systems. The SIEC involves counties, cities, special districts, fire and law enforcement associations, 9-1-1 public safety telecommunications, state agencies, the Governor's Public Safety Advisor, and others working together to create a blueprint for future communications coordination.

The Oregon Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) serves as the reference and roadmap for stakeholders regarding public safety wireless voice and data interoperability in our state. It is a living document that reflects past progress, the timeliness of our strategic goals and initiatives, and future issues and needs critical to the delivery of public safety services. The SCIP was originally adopted on November 28, 2003.

The Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) is the central coordination point for a state's interoperable emergency communications efforts.

DISCUSSION

Since 2010, the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has been the lead agency in support of the State Interoperability Executive Council. House Bill 4031 transfers this authority to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services (DAS).

The Statewide Interoperability Coordinator has been housed within ODOT's Major Projects Branch also since 2010. HB 4031 establishes the SWIC as a statewide position under the authority of DAS.

There is a natural relationship between the SIEC and the SWIC because of shared statewide responsibilities for public safety communications, interoperability and the emerging development of the national broadband data network, known as FirstNet. Transferring responsibility for the SIEC, the SWIC, interoperability and the new nationally initiated broadband technology to the Department of Administrative Services allows for a broader application of these functions and provides an equal basis for interaction among state and other public safety agencies.

House Bill 4031 establishes the following:

- Clarifies the role of the SIEC for Land Mobile Radio systems to one of statewide oversight and coordination of public safety communications
- Sets the SWIC as the agent for SIEC and FirstNet. The SCIP establishes an operational plan for the SIEC
- Transfers SIEC support to DAS from ODOT
- Updates membership of the SIEC by adding local Chief Information Officers and a non-profit representative.
- Sets the SIEC as the primary stakeholder group and advisor to the Governor for FirstNet in Oregon
- Transfers the FirstNet in Oregon project from ODOT to DAS, including staff and records, with grant funding to be utilized via agreement between DAS and ODOT

SUMMARY

House Bill 4031 transfers the State Interoperability Executive Council from the Oregon Department of Transportation to the Oregon Department of Administrative Services and modifies the duties of the executive council. The bill establishes the position of Statewide Interoperability Coordinator to support the executive council and to coordinate implementation of Oregon's Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan.