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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Pinto ORIGINAL DATE _____
LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE San Juan County Phone Line for Services SB 272

ANALYST Chilton

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY16	FY17		
	\$150.0	Non-recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

RELATES to SB 292 and HB 295.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Information Technology (DOIT)

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

SB 272, San Juan County Phone Line for Services, appropriates \$150 thousand from the General Fund to the Indian Affairs Department for the purpose of conducting a study to evaluate the feasibility of designing and planning a telephone trunk line for emergency services to those needing medical care in San Juan County, including youth and the elderly.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$150 thousand contained in this bill is a non-recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of Fiscal Year 2017 shall revert to the General Fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Navajo Nation maintains an emergency management number in Window Rock, Arizona. It also runs an Emergency Medical System, manned by emergency medical technicians, with

ambulances stationed at various places throughout the Navajo Nation, including Gallup and Shiprock, N.M. Telephone service is sometimes inconsistently reliable in remote parts of the reservation.

DOIT explains the concept of trunking as follows:

In telecommunications, trunking is a method for a system to provide network access to many clients by sharing a set of lines or frequencies instead of providing them individually. This is analogous to the structure of a tree with one trunk and many branches. Examples of this include telephone systems and the two-way radios commonly used by police agencies. More recently port trunking has been applied in computer networking as well.

One provider's description of trunk lines used for emergency service describes them as follows (information at <http://www.centurylink.com/wholesale/pcat/911.html> is included only to allow definition of terms, and identifying information is removed from the following three paragraphs to avoid the appearance of endorsing that provider):

911/E911 Trunking - These trunks interconnect an end office switch..., to the government agency that answers emergency calls. Basic 911 trunks extend directly from the end office switch to a PSAP [Public Safety Answering Point, or in some cases, to a SR [Selective Router], with separate E911 trunks extending from the SR to the emergency agency. Enhanced 911 trunks extend from an end office switch to a SR with separate E911 trunks extending from the SR to the emergency agency. A facility-based Competitive Local Exchange Carrier (CLEC) that operates its own end office switch must provide facilities to allow for interconnection to the 911/E911 network to the SR or PSAP. Trunks are then established over this facility.

E911 [Extended 911] Selective Router (SR) - The E911 SR acts as a tandem switch in the E911 network. CenturyLink provisions 911 through the E911 SR (tandem). The E911 SR is connected, by E911 trunks, to each of the end office switches in the geographical area served by the router. The SR is also connected by E911 trunks to each of the government agencies served by the router. The SR feature enables emergency calls from different telephone numbers to be routed to different PSAPs on the basis of the identified Automatic Number Identification (ANI) of the telephone used to place the call...

Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) - The PSAP is the name for the government agency that answers emergency calls. The PSAP may be connected directly to a particular end office switch through either Basic 911 trunks or through a SR for Extended 911.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

DOIT states that "Use of State Price Agreement vendors would speed up the deliverable cycle."

RELATES to SB 292 and HB 295, which are duplicate bills making an appropriation for a single statewide nurse advice line. Nurse advice lines are equipped to determine which calls received by them must be considered an emergency, usually then linking those calls to emergency services.

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

DOIT raises the following issues:

- IAD may not have the technical staffing to thoroughly vet a telecommunications feasibility plan.
- IAD may engage the provider industry at no cost to provide bids on implementing the project.
- DoIT with existing resources may be able to provide IAD with a feasibility plan and services. This type of work to benefit Executive Agencies is statutorily correct.
- IAD must consider the existing DFA/E911 architecture into a feasibility plan for a phone system supporting emergency calls that access various first responder services. DFA/E911 services can provide emergency services without duplication given the proper infrastructure is in place or needs to be built.

ALTERNATIVES

DOIT proposes the following possible alternatives:

- IAD administers the TIF (Tribal Infrastructure Fund) and those funds may qualify for communication infrastructure planning.
- IAD may request DoIT to prepare the feasibility study with engagement of the provider industry where necessary.
- IAD may request the provider industry to provide assessment and “bid” to implement the system.

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