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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Arnold-Jones ORIGINAL DATE 02/10/10 HJM 44  
LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ SB \_\_\_\_\_  
SHORT TITLE Federal Narrowband Mandate Methodology SB \_\_\_\_\_  
ANALYST Archuleta

### ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY10	FY11	FY12	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
<b>Total</b>		NFI	NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

#### Responses Received From

Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)  
Department of Information Technology (DoIT)  
Department of Health (DOH)

#### No Responses Received From

Department of Game and Fish (DGF)  
Department of Public Safety (DPS)

### SUMMARY

#### Synopsis of Bill

House Joint Memorial 44 requests that the Department of Information Technology and the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department work collaboratively with the appropriate local government entities to organize a strategy to meet the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) mandate and to report on that strategy by December 1, 2010 to the appropriate legislative committee appointed by the New Mexico Legislative Council.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact indicated by responding departments.

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

According to the Department of Information Technology, narrowbanding has been a federal requirement for more than 10 years and as the deadline approaches for compliance, the State of

New Mexico has not identified any funds to meet this requirement. The cost estimate to make the infrastructure narrowbanding compliant is approximately \$4.1 million dollars. The radios themselves would need to be replaced in most cases and that cost would be borne by each public safety and first responder. The DoIT and Homeland Security agencies will track all efforts to find funding and further assess the requirements and timelines for compliance.

DoIT owns most of the hospital radios and most of the radio repeater stations around the State of New Mexico. EMS providers and DoIT are faced with a short time span to budget and replace radio equipment that does not comply with the narrowband technology. DoIT holds the FCC operating license for all state owned radios and would therefore be liable for the FCC fines imposed after January 1, 2013.

### **PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

DOH notes that the FCC mandate will impact the operation of every two-way portable, mobile, base station and repeater on the State of New Mexico Emergency Medical Services Communication System. While most of these radios are in the hands of the state's first responders (8683 active EMS personnel as of 1/26/2010) all acute care hospitals, local clinics, dispatch centers and emergency operation centers use radios affected by this FCC mandate.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Additional studies by the Department of Information Technology and the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department are needed to identify a strategy and fill in the gaps. Both agencies, in collaboration with other local entities, would need to make a focused effort to work together and to implement this federal mandate.

### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

DOH notes that the EMS Bureau position of Communications Coordinator is directly responsible to the 9,000 plus users of the EMSCOM radio system that is maintained and controlled by the Department of Information Technology. There is also a Bureau of Health Emergency Management position that purchases radio equipment under federal grant funds for emergency management and emergency condition use. This memorial would assist DOH by giving our EMS providers a strategy to implement narrowband technology.

### **WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

A strategy to meet the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) mandate to migrate certain (two-way) radio channels to the newer "narrowband" channels by January 1, 2013 may not be developed.

DA/svb