

**PUBLIC SAFETY AMENDMENTS**

2015 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper**

House Sponsor: Brad L. Dee

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill amends provisions of the Utah Communications Authority Act.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ authorizes the Utah Communications Authority Board to commission a performance audit and study of the state's 911 emergency response system within the public safety communications network, which study shall include:

- determining potential cost savings that may be achieved by the functional consolidation of public safety answering points; and

- creating a strategic plan for the state's 911 emergency response system;

- ▶ limits the use of expenditures from the Unified Statewide 911 Emergency Service Account during the study; and

- ▶ makes technical changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

This bill provides a coordination clause.

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**63H-7-103**, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2014, Chapter 320

ENACTS:

30 **63H-7-206**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

31 **Utah Code Sections Affected by Coordination Clause:**

32 **63H-7-206**, Utah Code Annotated 1953



34 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

35 Section 1. Section **63H-7-103** is amended to read:

36 **63H-7-103. Definitions.**

37 As used in this chapter:

38 (1) "Authority" means the Utah Communications Authority, an independent state  
39 agency created in Section **67H-7-201**.

40 (2) "Board" means the Utah Communications Authority Board created in Section  
41 **67H-7-203**.

42 (3) "Bonds" means bonds, notes, certificates, debentures, contracts, lease purchase  
43 agreements, or other evidences of indebtedness or borrowing issued or incurred by the  
44 authority pursuant to this chapter.

45 [~~(5)~~] (4) "FirstNet" means the First Responder Network Authority created by Congress  
46 in the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012.

47 [~~(6)~~] (5) "Lease" means any lease, lease purchase, sublease, operating, management, or  
48 similar agreement.

49 [~~(7)~~] (6) "Local entity" means a county, city, town, local district, special service  
50 district, or interlocal entity created under Title 11, Chapter 13, Interlocal Cooperation Act.

51 [~~(8)~~] (7) "Member" means a public agency which:

52 (a) adopts a membership resolution to be included within the authority; and

53 (b) submits an originally executed copy of an authorizing resolution to the authority's  
54 office.

55 [~~(9)~~] (8) "Member representative" means a person or that person's designee appointed  
56 by the governing body of each member.

57 [~~(10)~~] (9) "Public agency" means any political subdivision of the state, including cities,

58 towns, counties, school districts, local districts, and special service districts, dispatched by a  
59 public safety answering point.

60 [(H)] (10) "Public safety answering point" or "PSAP" means an organization, entity, or  
61 combination of entities [~~which~~] that have joined together to form a central answering point for  
62 the receipt, management, and dissemination to the proper responding agency, of emergency and  
63 nonemergency communications, including 911 communications, police, fire, emergency  
64 medical, transportation, parks, wildlife, corrections, and any other governmental  
65 communications.

66 [(4)] (11) "Public safety communications network" means:

67 (a) a regional or statewide public safety governmental communications network and  
68 related facilities, including real property, improvements, and equipment necessary for the  
69 acquisition, construction, and operation of the services and facilities; and

70 (b) 911 emergency services, including radio communications, microwave connectivity,  
71 FirstNet coordination, and computer aided dispatch system.

72 (12) "State" means the state of Utah.

73 (13) "State representative" means the six appointees of the governor or their designees  
74 and the Utah state treasurer or his designee.

75 Section 2. Section **63H-7-206** is enacted to read:

76 **63H-7-206. Functional consolidation of PSAPs study.**

77 (1) As used in this section:

78 (a) "Functional consolidation" means the process of ensuring that disparate public  
79 safety answering points and public safety dispatching centers work together in an efficient and  
80 effective way.

81 (b) "PSAP operator":

82 (i) means a public agency that operates a PSAP; and

83 (ii) does not include an institution of higher education, a school district, or an airport  
84 authority that operates a PSAP.

85 (2) Beginning on or after July 1, 2015, the board shall commission and oversee a

86 performance audit and study of the state's 911 emergency response system and related elements  
87 of the public safety communications network, which shall include:

88 (a) a review of statutory provisions and efforts of the Utah 911 Committee, the 911  
89 program manager, and the Office of the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator regarding the  
90 assessment, planning, rules, technology review, and standardization of the state's 911  
91 emergency response system and related elements of the public safety communications network;

92 (b) working with state and local stakeholders to determine potential cost savings and  
93 increases in quality and efficiency that may be achieved by the functional consolidation of  
94 PSAPs and dispatch centers throughout the state, including recommendations regarding:

95 (i) an efficient and effective public safety communications management structure to  
96 ensure that high quality 911 emergency services are available to the state's citizens;

97 (ii) common standard operating procedures that ensure the least amount of call  
98 processing time;

99 (iii) efficient methods to transfer calls between PSAPs and from a PSAP to a first  
100 responder, regardless of jurisdiction;

101 (iv) uniformity of equipment and software protocols to accomplish seamless  
102 functionality between computer aided dispatch systems;

103 (v) interoperable telephonic and radio systems to ensure coordination between  
104 jurisdictions; and

105 (vi) how unnecessary duplication of services may be reduced or eliminated;

106 (c) making recommendations for inclusion in the strategic plan for the state's 911  
107 emergency response system and related elements of the public safety communications network,  
108 which recommendations may include:

109 (i) how PSAPs may benefit from functional consolidation;

110 (ii) how PSAPs within designated regions may accept calls and provide emergency  
111 communication services for first responders using interoperable equipment, software,  
112 protocols, and standard operating procedures; and

113 (iii) how PSAPs, regardless of physical location, may operate on interoperable, shared,

114 or hosted technology platforms and with common policies to reduce the need to transfer calls  
115 between PSAPs;

116 (d) describing and recommending potential solutions to the biggest impediments to  
117 functional consolidation of PSAPs; and

118 (e) making recommendations regarding necessary personnel and associated job duties  
119 within the Utah Communications Authority.

120 (3) On or before July 1, 2016, the performance audit and study described in Subsection  
121 (2) shall be completed and submitted by the board in writing to the Law Enforcement and  
122 Criminal Justice Interim Committee and the Retirement and Independent Entities Interim  
123 Committee.

124 (4) (a) Money from the Unified Statewide 911 Emergency Service Account created in  
125 Section 63H-7-304 may not be used to fund a new local PSAP, call taking, or dispatching  
126 project before the completion of the performance audit and study described in Subsection (2),  
127 unless the board determines that an exigent circumstance requires the allocation of funds.

128 (b) Money from the Unified Statewide 911 Emergency Service Account may be used to  
129 fund ongoing maintenance of existing equipment and projects approved before July 1, 2015.

130 (5) After July 1, 2016, money spent from the Unified Statewide 911 Emergency  
131 Service Account created in Section 63H-7-304 for projects, including state and local PSAP and  
132 dispatching projects, shall be made after consideration of the:

133 (a) recommendations of the performance audit and study described in Subsection (2);  
134 and

135 (b) strategic plan for the state's network 911 emergency response system and related  
136 elements of the public safety communications network described in Subsection (2)(c).

137 **Section 3. Coordinating S.B. 237 with H.B. 343 -- Substantive and technical**  
138 **amendments.**

139 If this S.B. 237 and H.B. 343, Utah Communication Authority Emergency Radio and  
140 911 Amendments, both pass and become law, it is the intent of the Legislature that the Office  
141 of Legislative Research and General Counsel, in preparing the Utah Code database for

142 publication:

143 (1) renumber Section 63H-7-206 created in this S.B. 237 to 63H-7a-206;

144 (2) provide that this S.B. 237 takes effect on July 1, 2015; and

145 (3) that Section 63H-7-206 in this S.B. 237 be replaced with the following:

146 **"63H-7a-206. Functional consolidation of PSAPs study.**

147 (1) As used in this section:

148 (a) "Functional consolidation" means the process of ensuring that disparate public  
149 safety answering points and public safety dispatching centers work together in an efficient and  
150 effective way.

151 (b) "PSAP operator":

152 (i) means a public agency that operates a PSAP; and

153 (ii) does not include an institution of higher education, a school district, or an airport  
154 authority that operates a PSAP.

155 (2) Beginning on or after July 1, 2015, the board shall commission and oversee a  
156 performance audit and study of the state's 911 emergency response system and related elements  
157 of the public safety communications network, which shall include:

158 (a) a review of statutory provisions and efforts of the authority, executive director,  
159 Utah 911 Division, and Interoperability Division regarding the assessment, planning, rules,  
160 technology review, and standardization of the state's 911 emergency response system and  
161 related elements of the public safety communications network;

162 (b) working with state and local stakeholders to determine potential cost savings and  
163 increases in quality and efficiency that may be achieved by the functional consolidation of  
164 PSAPs and dispatch centers throughout the state, including recommendations regarding:

165 (i) an efficient and effective public safety communications management structure to  
166 ensure that high quality 911 emergency services are available to the state's citizens;

167 (ii) common standard operating procedures that ensure the least amount of call  
168 processing time;

169 (iii) efficient methods to transfer calls between PSAPs and from a PSAP to a first

170 responder, regardless of jurisdiction;  
171 (iv) uniformity of equipment and software protocols to accomplish seamless  
172 functionality between computer aided dispatch systems;  
173 (v) interoperable telephonic and radio systems to ensure coordination between  
174 jurisdictions; and  
175 (vi) how unnecessary duplication of services may be reduced or eliminated;  
176 (c) making recommendations for inclusion in the strategic plan for the state's 911  
177 emergency response system and related elements of the public safety communications network,  
178 which recommendations may include:  
179 (i) how PSAPs may benefit from functional consolidation;  
180 (ii) how PSAPs within designated regions may accept calls and provide emergency  
181 communication services for first responders using interoperable equipment, software,  
182 protocols, and standard operating procedures; and  
183 (iii) how PSAPs, regardless of physical location, may operate on interoperable, shared,  
184 or hosted technology platforms and with common policies to reduce the need to transfer calls  
185 between PSAPs;  
186 (d) describing and recommending potential solutions to the biggest impediments to  
187 functional consolidation of PSAPs; and  
188 (e) making recommendations regarding necessary personnel and associated job duties  
189 within the authority.  
190 (3) On or before July 1, 2016, the performance audit and study described in Subsection  
191 (2) shall be completed and submitted by the board in writing to the Law Enforcement and  
192 Criminal Justice Interim Committee and the Retirement and Independent Entities Interim  
193 Committee.  
194 (4) (a) Money from the Unified Statewide 911 Emergency Service Account created in  
195 Section [63H-7a-304](#) may not be used to fund a new local PSAP, call taking, or dispatching  
196 project before the completion of the performance audit and study described in Subsection (2),  
197 unless the board determines that an exigent circumstance requires the allocation of funds.

198           (b) Money from the Unified Statewide 911 Emergency Service Account may be used to  
199 fund ongoing maintenance of existing equipment and projects approved before July 1, 2015.

200           (5) After July 1, 2016, money spent from the Unified Statewide 911 Emergency  
201 Service Account created in Section [63H-7a-304](#) for projects, including state and local PSAP  
202 and dispatching projects, shall be made after consideration of the:

203           (a) recommendations of the performance audit and study described in Subsection (2);  
204 and

205           (b) strategic plan for the state's network 911 emergency response system and related  
206 elements of the public safety communications network described in Subsection (2)(c)."