

Letter in Support of Statewide Public Safety Radio Communication System Equipment Grants

Please accept this letter of support on behalf of Motorola Solutions regarding HF 1075 related to the Statewide Public Safety Radio Communications System Equipment grants. The ability for first responders to communicate is essential to serving the communities of Minnesota. Whether it is a traffic stop in Roseau or a multi-jurisdictional event in Stillwater, Minnesota citizens depend on first responders' ability to communicate quickly and easily in the moments that matter. The proposed bill provides this for all Minnesota First Responders.

This proposed initiative will give all Minnesota First Responders true interoperable communications and the following benefits:

- Provided with radios, communication capability, training and support required to connect all rural and volunteer fire departments, first responders, and law enforcement agencies to the state's ARMER radio system.
- The upgrade of all radios tied to the ARMER Network will allow all Public Safety Users across the State direct communication with the Minnesota State Patrol, MN DOT, and other Emergency Responders in the area.
- True interoperable push to talk communications benefiting all 770 public safety agencies across the State and 25,000+ First Responders.
- The upgrade will provide the ARMER system and radios with the ability to align with CJIS guidelines for AES encryption and create a system that allows the security "keys" to be managed.
- The ability for all volunteer fire and other law enforcement agencies to arrive on the scene during mutual aid scenarios with a radio that allows them to communicate with every Public Safety agency across the state.

This bill will authorize the Minnesota Department of Public Safety to determine the number and type of radios required for each department based upon the department's needs, size, and number of emergency responses. This includes portable and mobile radios, related interoperability equipment, a project management team, hands on training for staff and Fire Responders, and programming, setup and installation of the Next Generation portable and mobile radios.

Ultimately, this legislation will allow public safety agencies to better respond and assist with disasters throughout the entire State of Minnesota, keeping Minnesota's citizens safe. We urge your support of this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Tony Kosiba

MSSSI Vice President

Motorola Solutions, Inc.