

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Use and possession of radio equipment capable of receiving police emergency transmissions

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Overview

This bill allows the chief law enforcement officer of a political subdivision to designate in writing the individuals who may use and possess radio equipment capable of receiving a police emergency frequency while in the course and scope of duties or employment. In this case, the individual does not need to apply to the BCA for a separate permit.

Section

- 1** **Use regulated.** Specifies the persons who may use radio equipment capable of receiving a police emergency frequency. Extends the persons who may use this equipment to include a person who the chief law enforcement officer of a political subdivision designates in writing. In these cases, the equipment may be used in the course and scope of duties or employment, such that the individual does not need to obtain a separate permit. Current law provides criminal penalties for possessing such equipment without a permit.
- 2** **Permit.** Adds political subdivisions to the list of individuals and entities to which the Superintendent of the BCA must issue a written permit upon written application. Current law states that anyone requesting such a permit must show good cause to use radio equipment capable of receiving a police emergency frequency, as a necessity, in the lawful pursuit of a business, trade, or occupation.