

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 808

DATE: April 7, 2003

Version: As Introduced

Authors: Dill and others

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

Analyst: Judie Zollar, 651-296-1554

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

This bill adds political subdivisions to the list of entities to which the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) may grant a permit to use radio equipment capable of receiving a police emergency frequency transmission. The bill also provides that the permit shall extend not only to the person who is designated in writing as the permit holder, but also to a person who is designated in writing as an authorized representative of a firm, political subdivision, or corporation, provided the use occurs while in the course and scope of duties or employment. As a result, each individual representative of a firm, political subdivision, or corporation does not need to obtain 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 is designated in writing as an authorized representative of a firm, political subdivision, or corporation that has been issued a permit. 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.

