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MEMORANDUM

To: Rep. Botzow, Chair, House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development

From: Rep. Heath, Chair, House Committee on Appropriations

Date: December 9, 2013

Subject: Review of Governors Proposed FY 2014 Budget Adjustment Bill

The House Appropriations Committee has started work on the Governor's proposed FY 2014 Budget Adjustment bill and would like the input of the Committee on Commerce and Economic Development on section 64. This section relates to providing assistance to school districts to comply with 30 V.S.A. Sec. 7057, fees and equipment associated with planning and implementation of the E-911 program in schools. It would be helpful if you could review this section and respond with your recommendation by the end of the day on January 15th. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sec. 64. Sec. E.235 of No. 50 of the Acts of 2013 is amended to read:

Sec. E.235 Enhanced 9-1-1 Board

(a) Up to ~~\$75,000~~ \$175,000 of the funds appropriated in Sec. B.235 of this act shall be used to ensure that ~~on or before January 15, 2014,~~ the Enhanced 911 Board, in coordination with the Secretary of Education, shall provide technical assistance and guidance to school districts to comply with the requirement in 30 V.S.A. § 7057 that accurate location information is associated with each landline telephone installed in a school. ~~The General Assembly anticipates the Board will seek a budget adjustment if insufficient funds are available within this appropriation.~~

EXPLANATION: The legislature recognized that the amounts appropriated to the E-911 Board (\$75K in 2013 Act 50 Sec B.235, and \$10K for FY 2014 and \$10K for FY 2015 in 2013 Act 51 Sec 18a) for assistance to school districts to achieve compliance with 30 VSA Sec 7057 might be insufficient. The prospect of obtaining more funding through the Budget Adjustment was reiterated in the Act 50 Legislative Letter of Intent. Working with a consultant on this issue, the Executive Director of the E-911 Board suggests increasing the total amount available by \$100K, which will be sufficient to provide assistance to the 142 schools and/or school districts that can benefit, an effort that should be completed around the end of FY 2014 (though the effort may extend into FY 2015). The source

of the funds is the E-911 Special Fund, which is in turn funded through the Universal Service Fund (the funding source stipulated in 2013 Act 51 Sec 18a).