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H.513

Senator Hooker moves to amend the bill by striking out Sec. 27a in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 27a and a Sec. 27b to read as follows:

Sec. 27a. 2G MICROCELLS; MUNICIPALITIES; EMERGENCY SERVICES

(a) The Commissioner of Public Service is authorized to spend up to \$100,000.00 for contractual services to provide resources and technical assistance to municipalities seeking to acquire or use State-owned 2G microcells for the purpose of providing emergency communications in areas that otherwise would not have access to mobile wireless E-911 service, consistent with the objectives of prior State investments in microcell network infrastructure. Technical assistance shall include a cost-benefit analysis, which shall include consideration of rates and charges related to electric, backhaul, and geolocation services, pole rental fees, backup-power requirements, co-location requirements, the use of radio spectrum, and the negotiation of roaming agreements with national wireless providers.

(b) The Commissioner of Public Service is authorized to provide financial assistance to municipalities for capital costs associated with the acquisition or installation of 2G microcells pursuant to this section. The Commissioner shall establish uniform standards and procedures applicable to the financial

1 assistance provided pursuant to this subsection and those standards and
2 procedures shall be consistent with the objectives of prior State investments in
3 microcell network infrastructure. The standards shall specify that the
4 municipality is responsible for operational costs of any microcell it acquires
5 under this section and, in addition, the standards shall require that such
6 microcells become fully operational within a reasonable period of time.

7 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a
8 municipality may use funds generated by its taxing or assessment power for
9 the limited purpose of paying costs related to the operation of microcells
10 pursuant to this section.

11 (d) Contracts and financial assistance authorized by this section shall be
12 funded with the \$900,000.00 capital appropriation to the Department of Public
13 Service for a VTA wireless network pursuant to 2018 Acts and Resolves No.
14 190, Sec. 14.

15 Sec. 27b. 2017 Acts and Resolves No. 84, Sec. 16c, as amended by 2018 Acts
16 and Resolves No. 190, Sec. 14 is further amended to read:

17 Sec. 16c. PUBLIC SERVICE

18 (a) The following sums are appropriated in FY 2019 to the Department of
19 Public Service:

20 (1) VTA wireless network, projects and technical assistance:

21 \$900,000.00

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