

1 APPROPRIATION:

2 Appropriation. There is appropriated to the Department of Public Safety
3 the amount of \$3,000,000.00 in ongoing funds and \$8,000,000 in one-time
4 funds from the General Fund for a new dispatch model, to be held in reserve
5 until released or reverted pursuant to Sec. E.209.

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7 Sec. E.209. VERMONT STATE POLICE; DISPATCH WORKING
8 GROUP; TRANSITION PROPOSAL; REPORT

9 (a) Creation. The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety shall
10 convene a working group for the purpose of reaching agreement on a proposal
11 to transition to a new dispatch model.

12 (b) Membership. The working group shall be composed of the following
13 members:

14 (1) one representative of the Vermont State Police, selected by the
15 Commissioner of Public Safety;

16 (2) two representatives of local legislative bodies, selected by the
17 Vermont League of Cities and Towns, one of which utilizes a state-dispatch
18 center and one of which utilizes an existing regional or local dispatch center;

19 (3) one representative of an existing local or regional dispatch center,
20 selected by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns;

1 (4) two police chiefs, selected by the Vermont Police Chiefs
2 Association, one of whom utilizes a state-dispatch center and one of whom
3 utilizes an existing regional or local dispatch center;

4 (5) one emergency medical responder, selected by the Vermont EMS
5 Advisory Committee;

6 (6) one firefighter, selected by the Vermont State Firefighters
7 Association;

8 (7) one sheriff, selected by the Vermont Sheriffs Association; and

9 (8) one representative of the Enhanced 9-1-1 Board, selected by the
10 Board Chair.

11 (c) Powers and duties. The working group shall develop a proposal to
12 transition to a regional dispatch model or, alternatively, a state-run dispatch
13 model. In developing the proposal, the working group shall:

14 (1) consider and document, for each town, how much is currently spent
15 on dispatch services in contrast to the projected costs under both models;
16 which responder services have been provided for that funding; and to whom
17 payment has been made for these services; and

18 (2) identify a transitional timeline and the tasks to be completed within
19 that timeline for both models.

20 (d) Report. On or before January 15, 2023, the working group shall submit
21 a report to the House and Senate Committees on Government Operations and

1 on Appropriations, the House Committee on Ways and Means, and the Senate
2 Committee on Finance. The report shall identify the working group's
3 recommended dispatch model and include supporting rationale. The report
4 shall also include the rationale for not recommending a different model.

5 (e) Meetings.

6 (1) The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety or designee
7 shall call the first meeting of the working group.

8 (2) The working group shall determine its chair from among the
9 members of the working group.

10 (3) A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

11 (f) Assistance. The working group shall have the administrative, technical,
12 and legal assistance of the Department of Public Safety.

13 (g) Appropriation.

14 (1) If the General Assembly approves, through the enactment of
15 legislation, the working group's recommendation, the \$11,000,000.00
16 appropriated and held in reserve for transition to a new dispatch model may be
17 released to the extent that it is needed for implementing the recommendation.

18 Any portion not needed to support the transition shall revert to the General
19 Fund.

20 (2) If the General Assembly does not approve the transition to a new
21 dispatch model through the enactment of legislation, the \$11,000,000 held in

1 reserve shall revert in its entirety to the General Fund, and the Department of
2 Public Safety shall continue to provide dispatch service to those local agencies
3 to which the Department is currently providing dispatch services.