

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Appropriations to which was referred House Bill No.
3 935 entitled “An act relating to emergency management” respectfully reports
4 that it has considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended as
5 follows:

6 First: By striking out Sec. 12, Department of Public Safety; Public Safety
7 Communications Task Force; authorization for ongoing expenditure of funds,
8 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Sec. 12 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 12. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY; PUBLIC SAFETY
10 COMMUNICATIONS TASK FORCE; AUTHORIZATION FOR
11 ONGOING EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS

12 (a) The General Assembly authorizes the use of monies appropriated or
13 held in reserve pursuant 2022 Acts and Resolves No. 185, Sec. B.1100, as
14 amended by 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec. C.115 and 2023 Acts and
15 Resolves No. 87, Sec. 49, for the Department of Public Safety to procure and
16 implement a multidisciplinary computer-aided dispatch system for public
17 safety communications, subject to the following:

18 (1) \$2,250,000.00 shall be available for immediate costs associated with
19 establishing the multidisciplinary computer-aided dispatch system and five
20 years of software licensing fees, provided that the Department issues requests
21 for proposal and signs contracts for services on or before January 1, 2027;

1 (2) \$190,000.00 shall be immediately available for cybersecurity,
2 expanded use of Rapid SOS, and geographic information systems; and

3 (3) \$4,500,000.00 shall be available incrementally over three years to:

4 (A) implement and expand the Land Mobile Radio network to
5 include a Statewide conceptual design;

6 (B) detail designs for one or more proof of concept projects and
7 initially implement pilot projects; and

8 (C) build out or improve 10 or more Land Mobile Radio sites,
9 including equipment and antenna deployment at existing chosen sites.

10 (b) Notwithstanding any provisions of 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 78, Sec.
11 C.114 to the contrary, the Public Safety Communications Task Force shall
12 continue in existence until February 15, 2027. The Task Force shall meet as
13 necessary to advise the Department of Public Safety on executing the Task
14 Force recommendations and final design plan. Notwithstanding 2023 Acts and
15 Resolves No. 78, Sec. C.114(d)(3), members of the Task Force shall be entitled
16 to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses permitted under 32
17 V.S.A. § 1010. These payments shall be made from monies appropriated to
18 the Department of Public Safety.

19 (c) The Department of Public Safety shall submit written reports to the
20 House Committees on Appropriations and on Government Operations and
21 Military Affairs and the Senate Committees on Appropriations and

1 Government Operations concerning the expenditure of monies pursuant to this
2 section. The Department shall submit the written reports on or before May 1,
3 2027, January 15, 2028, and January 15, 2029, concerning the expenditures
4 made during each respective reporting period.

5 (d) After the end of the three-year period described in subdivision (a)(3) of
6 this section, the Department of Public Safety may submit a request to the
7 General Assembly to authorize the use of any remaining monies from the
8 appropriations appropriated or held in reserve pursuant 2022 Acts and
9 Resolves No. 185, Sec. B.1100, as amended by 2023 Acts and Resolves No.
10 78, Sec. C.115 and 2023 Acts and Resolves No. 87, Sec. 49. Any remaining
11 monies shall not be used by the Department unless authorized by the General
12 Assembly.

13 Second: By striking out Sec. 13, appropriations, and its reader assistance
14 heading, in their entirety and inserting in lieu thereof new reader assistance
15 headings and three new sections to be Secs. 13, 13a, and 13b to read as
16 follows:

17 * * * Vermont Language Justice Project; Emergency and All-Hazards Media *

18 * *

19 Sec. 13. EMERGENCY AND ALL HAZARDS MEDIA; LANGUAGE
20 ACCESS

***** Programs Contingent on Availability of Agency Funds *****

The duty to implement Secs. 2 (Technical Rescue Grant Program) and 13 (emergency and all hazards media; language access) of this act is contingent upon the availability of sufficient funds within the Department of Public Safety and the Agency of Administration to support the programs.

* * * Appropriation * * *

The sum of \$500,000.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Public Safety in fiscal year 2027 for the Ready Response Grant Program administered by the Division of Emergency Management.

(Committee vote: _____)

Representative _____

VT LEG #388082 v.2