

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 2952

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of an emergency radio infrastructure revolving loan program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter N, Chapter 411, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 411.4015 to read as follows:

Sec. 411.4015. LOANS TO FINANCE INTEROPERABLE STATEWIDE EMERGENCY RADIO INFRASTRUCTURE. (a) The department shall provide loans to finance interoperable statewide emergency radio infrastructure in accordance with Section 411.402.

(b) The department shall determine the terms under which a loan may be made under this section and shall set the interest rate for a loan at a low rate that the department determines is sufficient to recover the cost of administering the loan program.

(c) Payments on loans made under this section shall be made to the department. The department shall use the repayments of loan principal by entities described by Section 411.402(a)(4) to make new loans as provided by this subchapter.

(d) The department may make a forgivable loan at a zero percent interest rate for a period of five years to an entity described by Section 411.402(a)(4). The department may not forgive an amount greater than one-fifth of the forgivable loan amount each year.

(e) The department shall adopt rules to administer this

1 section.

2 SECTION 2. Section 411.402, Government Code, is amended to  
3 read as follows:

4 Sec. 411.402. USE OF LOAN [~~REVENUE~~]. (a) A loan provided  
5 under Section 411.4015 [~~Fees collected under Section~~  
6 ~~133.102(e)(11), Local Government Code,~~] may only:

7 (1) be used for the planning, development, provision,  
8 enhancement, or ongoing maintenance of an interoperable statewide  
9 emergency radio infrastructure;

10 (2) be used in accordance with the statewide  
11 integrated public safety radio communications plan developed under  
12 Subchapter F, Chapter 421;

13 (3) be used for the development of a regional or state  
14 interoperable radio communication system;

15 (4) be made [~~distributed as grants by the department~~]  
16 to:

17 (A) regional councils of government that have  
18 entered into interlocal agreements authorized under state law; and

19 (B) state agencies requiring emergency radio  
20 infrastructure; or

21 (5) be used for other public safety purposes.

22 (b) A loan provided under Section 411.4015 [~~Fees collected~~  
23 ~~and distributed as provided by this subchapter~~] may not be used to  
24 purchase or maintain radio subscriber equipment.

25 SECTION 3. The heading to Section 411.403, Government Code,  
26 is amended to read as follows:

27 Sec. 411.403. EMERGENCY RADIO INFRASTRUCTURE REVOLVING

1 LOAN ACCOUNT.

2 SECTION 4. Sections 411.403(a), (b), and (c), Government  
3 Code, are amended to read as follows:

4 (a) The emergency radio infrastructure revolving loan  
5 account is an account in the general revenue fund.

6 (b) The account consists of:

7 (1) fees deposited in the account as provided by  
8 Section 133.102(e)(9) [~~133.102(e)(11)~~], Local Government Code;

9 (2) payments on loans made under Section 411.4015; and

10 (3) [~~(2)~~] notwithstanding Section 404.071, all  
11 interest attributable to money held in the account.

12 (c) Money in the account may be used only for loans made  
13 under this subchapter [~~appropriated to the department for the~~  
14 ~~purposes described by Section 411.402~~].

15 SECTION 5. Section 133.102(e), Local Government Code, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17 (e) The comptroller shall allocate the court costs received  
18 under this section to the following accounts and funds so that each  
19 receives to the extent practicable, utilizing historical data as  
20 applicable, the same amount of money the account or fund would have  
21 received if the court costs for the accounts and funds had been  
22 collected and reported separately, except that the account or fund  
23 may not receive less than the following percentages:

24 (1) crime stoppers assistance 0.2581 percent;

25 (2) breath alcohol testing 0.5507 percent;

26 (3) Bill Blackwood Law Enforcement Management

27 Institute 2.1683 percent;

