

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1848

Introduced by Assembly Member Bermudez

January 12, 2006

An act to add Section 8592.10 to the Government Code relating to homeland security.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1848, as introduced, Bermudez. Homeland security: interoperable public safety communication network.

Existing law provides for the coordination of state and local public safety agencies and emergency response teams to respond to emergencies. Existing law administered by the Federal Communications Commission authorizes public safety agencies or entities to operate radio communication systems on specified frequencies of the radio spectrum and directs states to oversee the interoperability of the public safety spectrum.

Existing law, by executive order, also establishes in the Governor's office the Office of Homeland Security for the purpose of, among other things, coordinating security activities throughout California and coordinating and approving all state requests for federal funds designated for terrorism-related activities.

This bill would require the Governor's Office of Homeland Security, in consultation with the California Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee in the Office of Emergency Services and the Public Safety Radio Strategic Planning Committee, to adopt a plan for the establishment of, and funding for, a statewide integrated, interoperable public safety communication network. The bill would require the office to develop a performance standard for public safety communications interoperability before July 1, 2007, and would

require the office to file a report to the Joint Rules Committee of the Legislature by August 1, 2007, on the performance standard for interoperability among state and local public safety agency communication devices, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 8592.10 is added to the Government
2 Code, to read:

3 8592.10. (a) The Governor’s Office of Homeland Security,
4 in consultation with the Statewide Interoperability Executive
5 Committee and the Public Safety Radio Strategic Planning
6 Committee, shall adopt a plan for the establishment of, and
7 funding for, a statewide integrated, interoperable public safety
8 communication network.

9 (b) Before July 1, 2007, the office shall develop a performance
10 standard that builds upon the federal Project 25 public safety
11 communications interoperability guidelines of the American
12 National Standards Institute.

13 (c) The performance standard adopted by the office shall
14 incorporate open standards for communication systems and
15 devices, and require that those systems and devices be backward
16 compatible. The office shall file a final report, with
17 recommendations to the Joint Rules Committee of the
18 Legislature by August 1, 2007. The report shall include
19 recommendations for a phase-in period for the governance of
20 interoperable communications systems.

21 (d) Any interoperable communications devices or equipment
22 already owned by a state or local public safety agency that
23 functionally meets the requirements of this section shall be
24 deemed qualified under the standard set forth in this section. New
25 systems purchased after August 1, 2007, shall meet the standards
26 set forth in this section.

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