

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS25059C1

The purpose of this bill is to set up a structure that will allow for the certification of emergency communications officers by the Peace Officer's Standards and Training Council (POST). Currently, no standardized training or hiring standard is required of these individuals. Emergency communications officers deal daily with life or death matters in a rapidly evolving and highly stressful environment. They must be familiar with highly complex information and work with highly expensive equipment. They are the lifeline for our first responders and citizenry. The bill gives ample time for compliance with the training, and most current officers will not be required to obtain training as they already will be in compliance with the training or have experience that mirrors the training. The training may be obtained online or through a POST basic dispatch academy.

FISCAL NOTE

This bill has no impact on the general fund of the state. The administrative costs incurred by POST for the first three years is covered through an Idaho Public Utilities grant. After that, the costs will be covered through the 911 fee obtained through the emergency communications statutes, and has already been approved by the Idaho Public Safety Communications Commission. The cost to local entities, which overwhelmingly support this bill, is minimal because the training may be obtained online or through a POST Basic Dispatch Academy.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).