

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

**Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §1520, sub-§1, ¶A**, as amended by PL 2005, c. 12, Pt. SS, §4, is further amended to read:

A. The office shall work closely with all departments and agencies to identify radio and network requirements for the statewide system to ensure that agency program requirements are met to the maximum extent possible. The office shall:

(1) Ensure that the annual costs of the lease or lease-purchase are paid in a timely manner and that the financial affairs of the fund are properly managed;

(2) Maintain records of radio and network system requirements for all agencies using the system and make this information available to state agencies;

(3) Require state agencies to become part of the statewide radio and network system when replacing their current systems or purchasing new systems;

(4) Acquire, expand, upgrade or replace the statewide radio and network system in accordance with an established replacement plan; ~~and~~

(5) Transfer radio equipment and network infrastructure into the fund from agencies using the system, purchase, lease, lease-purchase or enter into other financing agreements, in accordance with section 1587, for the acquisition, expansion, upgrade or replacement of the system or any of its components in accordance with paragraph B when it can be demonstrated that any such action or agreement provides a clear cost or program advantage to the State.; and

(6) Ensure that in meeting the purposes set forth in this section:

(a) The ability of agencies of county and local government to communicate with state agencies is enhanced whenever possible and is not significantly diminished; and

(b) The counties and local units of government are not required to replace or upgrade their equipment at their own expense solely in order to maintain their ability to communicate with state agencies.

## **SUMMARY**

This amendment, which is the minority report, removes the requirement for the Statewide Radio and Network System Reserve Fund to reimburse counties and local units of government for purchasing radio equipment necessary for counties and local units of government to communicate on the new statewide radio and network system. It requires the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Office of Information Technology to ensure that the ability of county and local governments to communicate with state agencies is enhanced whenever possible and is not significantly diminished under the new statewide radio and network system.