



Ninety-Ninth Legislature - First Session - 2005
Committee Statement
LB 715

Hearing Date: February 15, 2005

Committee On: Transportation and Telecommunications

Introducer(s): (Wehrbein)

Title: Change provisions of the Nebraska Public Safety Wireless Communication System Act and eliminate the advisory board

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

Advanced to General File

Advanced to General File with Amendments

X Indefinitely Postponed

Vote Results:

5	Yes	Senators Brown, Aguilar, Stuthman, Hudkins, Baker
3	No	Senators Dw. Pedersen, Smith, Foley
	Present, not voting	
	Absent	

Proponents:

Senator Roger Wehrbein
 Curt Bromm
 David Smith
 Jo Dee Adelung
 Terry Wagner
 Jerry Stilmock
 Terry Burger
 William L. Mizner
 Bob Sutphen

Representing:

Introducer
 League of Nebraska Municipalities
 League of Nebraska Municipalities
 League of Municipalities
 Nebraska Sheriff’s Association
 Nebraska State Volunteer Firefighters Assn.
 Municipal Fire Chiefs Association
 Police Chiefs Association of NE
 League of Nebraska Municipalities

Opponents:

Brenda Decker
 Timothy Loewenstein
 Larry Dix
 Rick Boucher
 Kristen Gottschalk

 Jack Cheloha

Representing:

State of Nebraska – Administration CIO
 Buffalo County & CNRI
 Nebraska Association of County Officials
 Nebraska City Sheriff’s Association
 Nebraska Power Association;
 Nebraska Rural Electric Association
 City of Lincoln

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

The bill eliminates the Public Safety Wireless Communication Advisory Board and changes the alliance and its governance, powers and duties. The alliance would be required to design, acquire and construct the system. Within 60 days after the operative date of the bill, SCAN would be required to issue an RFP to prospective vendors based on the system specifications approved by SCAN on October 5, 2004. The bill provides that prior to entering any contract for the development, acquisition, or construction of a system, SCAN shall submit a written report to the Appropriations Committee and the Government Affairs Committee.

New language prohibits sales and use taxes from being imposed on the purchases made by the alliance created pursuant to the Nebraska Public Safety Wireless Communication System Act.

The bill allows DAS to, on behalf of the State of Nebraska, to enter into a service agreement for the system with the alliance. The service agreement shall specify the services to be provided to the state by the alliance in operating, maintaining, and managing the system.

New language prohibits the expenditure of any funds in the acquisition, development, construction, or replacement of any wireless communication system that does not meet the technical and operational standards established by the alliance unless the expenditure is less than ten thousand dollars in any fiscal year.

The bill provides an effective date of April 1, 2005 for sections 1 to 3 and 23. The other sections become operative on their effective date.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Senator Tom Baker, Chairperson