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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR	Reps. Hernandez, J., Cullen, and Cates/ Sens. Nava and Block	LAST UPDATED	
		ORIGINAL DATE	2/3/2025
SHORT TITLE	Digital Trunked Radio System Subscriber Fees	BILL NUMBER	House Bill 192
		ANALYST	Fischer

APPROPRIATION* (dollars in thousands)

FY25	FY26	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
	\$2,800.0	Recurring	General Fund

Parentheses () indicate expenditure decreases.

*Amounts reflect most recent analysis of this legislation.

Sources of Information

LFC Files

Agency Analysis Received From

Department of Information Technology (DoIT)

Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC)

Indian Affairs Department (IAD)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of House Bill 192

House Bill 192 (HB192) appropriates \$2.8 million from the general fund to the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) in FY26 to pay one year of subscriber fees for the digital trunked radio communications system (DTRS) to municipal, county, and tribal public safety agencies that provide law enforcement, fire, medical, or other emergency services. The bill also requires annual reporting on users and subscriber fees to the Legislative Finance Committee.

This bill does not contain an effective date and, as a result, would go into effect 90 days after the Legislature adjourns if enacted, or June 20, 2025.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$2.8 million contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Although House Bill 192 does not specify future appropriations, establishing a new subsidy program could create an expectation the program will continue in future fiscal years; therefore, this cost is scored as recurring. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY26 shall not revert. However, DoIT notes that the \$2.8 million will likely not be enough to cover annual radio subscriptions for DTRS service beyond FY26.

The FY26 executive budget recommendation included a \$2.5 million nonrecurring and \$2 million recurring appropriation for DTRS subscription costs. The LFC budget recommendation did not include either of these amounts. In the prior year (FY25) the Legislature provided DoIT a \$2.8 million one-year appropriation to subsidize system subscriptions.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

DoIT’s digital public safety radio system (DTRS) provides an upgraded, digital public safety radio system covering 49 percent of the state. DTRS is an open platform available to all governmental first responder agencies within the state of New Mexico. DoIT charges non-state entities \$20 per device per month to use its digital trunked radio service. DoIT has over 60 confirmed subscribers, including school and local police, fire departments, and other federal and state safety agencies. However, only 23 of these entities are non-state full subscribers. DoIT also has “limited” participants who are not charged a monthly service fee and cannot use the system for daily business/agency operations. They can only utilize interoperability resources to talk to other agencies at the scene of an incident or event. DoIT projects that for FY26, the non-federal, non-state entities would amass slightly more than \$3 million in fees.

Subscriber (non-federal)	FY 26 Projected Devices	Cost if charges subscription fees
City of Albuquerque	4,444	\$1,066,560
Bernalillo County	1,635	\$392,400
City of Santa Fe	1,486	\$356,640
Dofia Ana County	1,439	\$345,360
Eddy County	1,175	\$282,000
Sandoval County	877	\$210,480
City of Rio Rancho	425	\$102,000
Rio Rancho	300	\$72,000
Hidalgo County	300	\$72,000
Valencia County	145	\$34,800
Village of Los Lunas	142	\$34,080
Torrence County	120	\$28,800
New Mexico State University	60	\$14,400
City of Belen	23	\$5,520
Socorro County	16	\$3,840
Los Lunas School District	15	\$3,600
2nd District Attorney	14	\$3,360
BNSF Railway Policy	5	\$1,200
Total	12,621	\$3,029,040

Subscriber (federal)	FY 26 Projected Devices	Cost if charged subscription fees
U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives	200	\$48,000
U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigations	120	\$28,800
U.S. Bureau of Land Management	80	\$19,200
U.S. Marshals	140	\$33,600
U.S. Forestry	15	\$3,600
Total	555	\$133,200

Source: DoIT

Under the HB192 proposed language, DoIT’s federal agency subscribers and non-law enforcement local government entities would not be entitled to a subsidy. This is a departure from the language in the FY25 special appropriation.

MF/rl/SR/hj