2019 ASSEMBLY BILL 471

September 24, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives LOUDENBECK, FELZKOWSKI, DITTRICH, SWEARINGEN, ANDERSON and MURSAU, cosponsored by Senators MARKLEIN, L. TAYLOR and SCHACHTNER. Referred to Committee on State Affairs.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under this bill, the Department of Military Affairs must provide grants to Wisconsin public safety answering points to purchase, upgrade, and maintain Next Generation 911 equipment. Under the bill, the 911 subcommittee must advise DMA on appropriate grant purposes and eligibility criteria for the grants, and DMA must promulgate rules for grant use purposes and eligibility based on those recommendations.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 256.35 (3s) (bm) of the statutes is created to read:

256.35 (3s) (bm) Competitive grant program. 1. The department shall award grants to public safety answering points for the purposes identified under subd. 2. using the criteria in subd. 3.
2. The department shall promulgate rules that identify appropriate purposes for grants under subd. 1. based on the recommendations of the 911 subcommittee under par. (d) 4. Grant purposes may include advanced training of telecommunicators, equipment or software expenses, and incentives to consolidate some or all of the functions of 2 or more public safety answering points. Grant purposes may not include general public safety answering point overhead or staffing costs or costs for providing emergency services or emergency services equipment.

3. The department shall promulgate rules that contain eligibility criteria for grants under subd. 1. based on the recommendations of the 911 subcommittee under par. (d) 4.

4. The department may not award a grant under subd. 1. to more than one public safety answering point per county.

SECTION 2. 256.35 (3s) (d) 4. of the statutes is amended to read:

256.35 (3s) (d) 4. If funding is made available for the department or another state agency to make grants to public safety answering points for training or upgrading facilities or services or for implementing Next Generation 911, advise the department or other state agency on making the awarding Next Generation 911 grants under par. (bm) 1., including advising on appropriate grant purposes and eligibility criteria for the grants. The criteria shall include basic training and service standards that grant applicants must satisfy.

(END)