

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 15.107 (18), 16.964 (1) (j) and 16.9645 of the statutes; **relating to:**
 2 creating an interoperability council.

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

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL PREFATORY NOTE: This draft was prepared for the Joint Legislative Council’s Special Committee on Disaster Preparedness Planning. It makes the current state interoperability executive council, which was created by executive order, a statutory council attached to the Department of Administration (DOA) for administrative purposes.

The council is renamed the interoperability council and consists of 15 members including:

1. The executive director of the office of justice assistance (OJA), the adjutant general, the secretary of natural resources, the secretary of transportation, and a representative of DOA with knowledge of information technology, or their designees.
2. Ten members appointed by the governor for staggered 4–year terms, as follows: a police chief, an emergency medical services director, a fire chief, a sheriff, a local government elected official, a local emergency management director, a tribal representative, a hospital representative, a local health department representative, and one other person with relevant experience or expertise in interoperable communications.

The governor designates the chair and vice chair of the council.

Under the draft, OJA (which is housed in DOA) will provide staff support to the council and oversee the development and operation of a statewide interoperable communication system.

The council serves in an advisory capacity to OJA and is responsible for the following activities relating to a statewide public safety interoperable communication system:

1. Identifying types of agencies and entities to be included in the system, in addition to public safety agencies.
2. Recommending short–term and long–term goals to develop the system and a strategy and timeline for achieving those goals.

3. Assisting OJA in identifying and obtaining funding to implement the system and advising OJA on allocating funds.

4. Making recommendations to OJA on:

a. Technical and operational standards, guidelines, and procedures for public safety interoperable communications.

b. Minimum standards for the communications systems, facilities, and equipment used by dispatch centers.

c. Certification criteria for persons operating dispatch center communications.

1 **SECTION 1.** 15.107 (18) of the statutes is created to read:

2 15.107 **(18)** INTEROPERABILITY COUNCIL. (a) There is created an interoperability council,
3 attached to the department of administration under s. 15.03.

4 (b) The council consists of the following:

5 1. The executive director of the office of justice assistance, the adjutant general, the
6 secretary of natural resources, the secretary of transportation, and a representative from the
7 department of administration with knowledge of information technology, or their designees.

8 2. Ten members appointed by the governor for staggered 4-year terms, including a chief
9 of police, a sheriff, a chief of a fire department, a director of emergency medical services, a
10 local government elected official, a local emergency management director, a representative
11 of a federally recognized American Indian tribe or band in this state, a hospital representative,
12 a local health department representative, and one other person with relevant experience or
13 expertise in interoperable communications.

14 (c) The governor shall designate a member of the council as the chairperson and a
15 member as the vice chairperson.

16 **SECTION 2.** 16.964 (1) (j) of the statutes is created to read:

1 16.964 (1) (j) Provide staff support for the interoperability council under s. 16.9645 and
2 oversight of the development and operation of a statewide public safety interoperable
3 communication system.

4 **SECTION 3.** 16.9645 of the statutes is created to read:

5 **16.9645 Interoperability council. (1)** In this section:

6 (a) “Council” means the interoperability council created under s. 15.107 (18).

7 (b) “Dispatch center” has the meaning given for “public safety answering point” in s.
8 146.70 (1) (gm).

NOTE: “Public safety answering point” is defined as a facility to which
a call on a basic or sophisticated system is initially routed for response,
and on which a public agency directly dispatches the appropriate
emergency service provider, relays a message to the appropriate
emergency service provider, or transfers the call to the appropriate
emergency services provider.

9 (c) “Interoperability” means the ability of public safety agencies to communicate with
10 each other and with agencies and entities identified under sub. (2) (a) by means of radio or
11 associated communications systems, including the exchange of voice, data, or video
12 communications on demand and in real time, as needed and authorized.

13 (d) “Public safety agency” has the meaning given in s. 146.70 (1) (g).

NOTE: “Public safety agency” means a functional division of a public
agency which provides fire fighting, law enforcement, medical or other
emergency services.

14 **(2)** The council shall do all of the following:

15 (a) Identify types of agencies and entities, including public works and transportation
16 agencies, hospitals, and volunteer emergency services agencies to be included, in addition to
17 public safety agencies, in a statewide public safety interoperable communication system.

1 (b) Recommend short-term and long-term goals to achieve a statewide public safety
2 interoperable communication system.

3 (c) Recommend and periodically review a strategy and timeline for achieving the goals
4 under par. (b), including objectives for local units of government.

5 (d) Assist the office of justice assistance in identifying and obtaining funding to
6 implement a statewide public safety interoperable communication system.

7 (e) Advise the office of justice assistance on allocating funds, including those available
8 for homeland security, for the purpose of achieving the goals under par. (b).

9 (f) Make recommendations to the office of justice assistance on all of the following:

10 1. Technical and operational standards for public safety interoperable communication
11 systems.

12 2. Guidelines and procedures for using public safety interoperable communication
13 systems.

14 3. Minimum standards for public safety interoperable communication systems,
15 facilities, and equipment used by dispatch centers.

16 4. Certification criteria for persons who operate public safety interoperable
17 communication systems for dispatch centers.

18 **SECTION 4. Nonstatutory provisions; Administration.**

19 (1) INITIAL TERMS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS. Notwithstanding section 15.107 (18) (b) 2. of
20 the statutes, as created by this act, the initial terms of 5 of the members of the interoperability
21 council appointed under section 15.107 (18) (b) 2. of the statutes, as created by this act, shall
22 expire on July 1, 2009, and the terms of the other 5 members of the council appointed under
23 section 15.107 (18) (b) 2. of the statutes shall expire on July 1, 2011.

24 (END)