
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 237 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY MENSCH, VULAKOVICH, AUMENT, EICHELBERGER, BAKER
AND BLAKE, NOVEMBER 9, 2017

REFERRED TO VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,
NOVEMBER 9, 2017

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging counties of this Commonwealth and local law enforcement,
2 public safety and emergency services to work with the
3 Pennsylvania State Police and the Office of Public Safety
4 Radio to explore and execute shared services arrangements in
5 relation to the new P25 PA-STARNet rollout.

6 WHEREAS, On July 1, 2012, the Office of Administration
7 announced the transfer of responsibility of PA-STARNet, the
8 Statewide public safety radio system, to the Pennsylvania State
9 Police; and

10 WHEREAS, On September 18, 2013, the Pennsylvania State Police
11 testified before the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness
12 Committee of the House of Representatives that weaknesses in
13 reliability and coverage prevented PA-STARNet from being a true
14 public safety grade system and that they were working through a
15 selection process with two vendors to chose one to develop a
16 solution that would transition the system from the current
17 platform to a P25 public safety grade platform; and

18 WHEREAS, On October 20, 2016, the Pennsylvania State Police,
19 on behalf of this Commonwealth, completed the competitive

1 procurement process and contracted for a P25 upgrade to PA-
2 STARNet; and

3 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania State Police and the Office of
4 Public Safety Radio Services will manage and deploy the P25
5 upgrade across this Commonwealth beginning in the northwest
6 corner of the State in 2017 and ending in the northcentral
7 portion of the State in 2021; and

8 WHEREAS, The upgrade will consist of new P25 infrastructure,
9 hardened microwave backhaul, improved coverage, a long-term
10 maintenance program and site hardening; and

11 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania State Police and local law
12 enforcement, public safety and emergency services all require
13 P25 emergency communications to successfully manage the
14 responsibilities of their public services mandates to their
15 respective agencies and the citizenry in both daily operations
16 and emergency operations; and

17 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania State Police and the Office of
18 Public Safety Radio Services seek to share services, capital
19 investment and infrastructure among State agencies and local
20 municipalities in an effort to maximize capital investment,
21 minimize public investment and drive taxpayer efficiencies; and

22 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania State Police and local law
23 enforcement, public safety and emergency services require
24 seamless emergency communications interoperability; and

25 WHEREAS, The Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency has
26 encouraged regional consolidation among public safety answering
27 points and radio systems to be eligible for 911 State funding;
28 therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the Senate urge counties of this Commonwealth
30 and local law enforcement, public safety and emergency services

1 to work with the Pennsylvania State Police and the Office of
2 Public Safety Radio Services to explore and execute shared
3 services arrangements in relation to the new P25 PA-STARNet
4 rollout.