



**AN ACT CONCERNING PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO COMMUNICATIONS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2003*) (a) As used in this  
2 section:

3 (1) "Communications equipment or service" means any physical  
4 devices for use in tactical public safety dispatch radio, including  
5 equipment, software, hardware or services which facilitate the  
6 sending, transmission, carriage or use of any radiotelephone or mobile  
7 radio or other wireless communication, including, but not limited to,  
8 fixed and mobile wireless transceiver devices, switches, routers,  
9 trunking devices, relay devices, transmission devices, transmission  
10 receiving devices, antennas, base stations, administrative consoles,  
11 cross connect devices, multiplexing devices, coders and decoders;

12 (2) "Public safety application" means any application, function or  
13 use relating to protecting, maintaining or advancing the safety of the  
14 public, including, but not limited to, the use of voice or data  
15 communications to assist homeland security, policing and law  
16 enforcement, border patrol and protection, civil emergency and  
17 preparedness, fire safety, control and fire suppression, medical  
18 response and emergency medical response, highway and other public  
19 transportation operation, maintenance, repair and assistance;

20 (3) "System" means the communications network or system upon or  
21 through which radio or wireless based communications are facilitated,  
22 in whole or in part, from one point of origination to any other one or  
23 more final or intermediate points of delivery or reception, including,  
24 but not limited to, router, switching and trunking elements, call or  
25 channel validation and authorization elements, network signaling and  
26 control elements and protocols, and interconnection and relay  
27 elements; and

28 (4) "Interconnection" means any reasonable and nondiscriminatory  
29 system of mutual connection and interoperability between  
30 communications systems which complies with the technical  
31 specifications of the interconnection which are published and available  
32 at no cost to the equipment user, licensee or owner or any other party.

33 (b) Interconnection and interoperability shall be deemed to permit  
34 any third party equipment or third party communications system,  
35 through application programming interface specifications, protocol  
36 specifications and hardware and system design specifications, to:

37 (1) Send and receive voice and data content from the system in its  
38 native transmission format or protocol without the aid of a proprietary  
39 equipment or signal interpreter, coder or decoder device or other end  
40 device, at and within such points of the system irrespective of the  
41 physical point or method of interface, to the extent technically feasible;

42 (2) Send and receive network, routing, trunking and switching  
43 control and signaling control data, inputs and outputs in its native  
44 format or protocol, and to execute, process and transmit network  
45 control and signaling functions and to do so at and within such points  
46 of the system irrespective of the physical point or method of interface,  
47 to the extent technically feasible;

48 (3) Access, physically and electronically, and interface with any  
49 element of the system at such points that are technically capable of  
50 being interfaced, or substitute, replace, supplement or enhance any  
51 element of the system, or part thereof, with an element or part thereof

52 made or supplied by any third party that complies with the  
53 specifications without invalidating any guarantees or warranties  
54 relating to the system other than the part or element so replaced or  
55 modified.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2003</i>

**PS**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*