

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017

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SENATE BILL DRS25081-MMz-124C*

Short Title: VIPER - Survey/Outreach/In-Kind Contributions. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Edwards and Foushee (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO CONDUCT AN
3 ANNUAL SURVEY OF VIPER USERS, TO INCREASE OUTREACH TO
4 STAKEHOLDERS, AND TO DETERMINE THE VALUE OF IN-KIND
5 CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPORTING THE VIPER SYSTEM, AS RECOMMENDED BY
6 THE JOINT LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM EVALUATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.
7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
8 **SECTION 1.** The Department of Public Safety (Department) shall conduct an annual
9 survey of local, State, and federal users of North Carolina's Voice Interoperability Plan for
10 Emergency Responders (VIPER) in order to track and measure user satisfaction and feedback
11 over time. Beginning November 1, 2019, and annually thereafter, the Department shall report the
12 survey results to the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety.
13 **SECTION 2.** The Department shall increase outreach to VIPER stakeholders beyond
14 those that participate in the State Interoperability Executive Committee. The outreach may
15 include zone or regional meetings conducted by the State Highway Patrol with local chiefs of
16 police, sheriffs, fire chiefs, and representatives of emergency medical services.
17 **SECTION 3.** The Department shall determine the value of all in-kind contributions
18 made by units of local government, the federal government, and nongovernmental entities to
19 support the VIPER system. As used in this section, an in-kind contribution includes cash, land,
20 buildings, towers, and equipment for VIPER sites. The Department shall report its findings to the
21 Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety by July 1, 2019.
22 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.



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