

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019**

**HOUSE BILL 1063  
RATIFIED BILL**

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF UPGRADING BASE STATIONS OF THE VOICE INTEROPERABILITY PLAN FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS (VIPER) NETWORK.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Findings. – The General Assembly finds all of the following:

- (1) Communication in any emergency is critical to the response of emergency personnel.
- (2) The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has caused an unprecedented spike in the number and complexity of emergency requests from North Carolina citizens.
- (3) Our emergency responders depend on a reliable communication network supported by reliable, state of the art, updated equipment to help in their response to emergencies.
- (4) During this pandemic the citizens of North Carolina depend on their government to ensure that there is a reliable communication network supported by reliable, state of the art, updated equipment to allow emergency personnel to respond to their emergency calls for assistance.
- (5) VIPER, Voice Interoperability Plan for Emergency Responders, is the State of North Carolina's emergency response network.
- (6) VIPER includes the VIPER Medical Network, which enables emergency responders to communicate with hospital emergency rooms.

**SECTION 2.** Transfer. – The State Controller shall transfer the sum of nineteen million eight hundred thousand five hundred thirty dollars (\$19,800,530) from the Coronavirus Relief Reserve established in Section 2.1 of S.L. 2020-4 to the Coronavirus Relief Fund established in Section 2.2 of that same act.

**SECTION 3.** Appropriation. – There is appropriated from the Coronavirus Relief Fund to the Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM) the sum of nineteen million eight hundred thousand five hundred thirty dollars (\$19,800,530) in nonrecurring funds for the 2020-2021 fiscal year to be allocated to the Department of Public Safety to be used for tower hardware upgrades to the Voice Interoperability Plan for Emergency Responders (VIPER) network.

**SECTION 4.** Requirements. – The requirements and limitations set forth in Part I of S.L. 2020-4 shall apply to the funds appropriated by this act. OSBM shall include the funds transferred and appropriated under this act in the report required under Section 1.7 of S.L. 2020-4.



**SECTION 5. Effective Date.** – This act becomes effective July 1, 2020.  
In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.

s/ Philip E. Berger  
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

s/ Tim Moore  
Speaker of the House of Representatives

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Roy Cooper  
Governor

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ .m. this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020