



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Speaker of the House Rusty Bowers (R-25)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Speaker Bowers Creates Ad Hoc Study Committee on Statewide Emergency Communications

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – House Speaker Rusty Bowers (R-25) today announced the creation of an ad hoc study committee on statewide emergency communications and named Representative Kevin Payne (R-21) as its chair.

The committee will examine emerging technologies that have produced positive outcomes in the areas of emergency and crisis communications, including those tested in Arizona counties, as well as investigating solutions for sharing data across multiple agencies and departments, which include live video data streaming systems for active threat response.

Representative Shawna Bolick (R-20) will serve as vice chair of the committee. Speaker Bowers also appointed Representatives Bret Roberts (R-11), Jennifer Longdon (D-24), and Daniel Hernandez (D-2) to serve on the study committee.

“The unfortunate reality is that threats exist in our world today and we need to continue to search for new ways to secure the safety of our citizens, including students in schools across the state,” said Speaker Bowers. **“As chair of the House Committee on Public Safety, Representative Payne has shown that he isn’t afraid to tackle complex issues that directly affect the safety and well-being of the public. I look forward to reviewing the work of this committee.”**

“Disasters, either man-made or naturally occurring, can affect any town, city, or county in Arizona, putting the safety of the public in jeopardy,” said Representative Payne. **“We must harness the growth of emerging technologies so that we can identify the most effective ways to connect emergency responders across jurisdictional boundaries.”**

“This study committee will allow stakeholders to provide critical input on what works in the field and how we can adopt new technologies to better ensure the safety of the public.”

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