

2013-04-05 Threats to SLIGP and PSBN Funding

Tuesday, April 01, 2014

4:01 PM

DHSMV: FloridaNet

Threats to SLIGP and PSBN Funding

Posted by Rob Fortner on Apr 5 '13



All,

I hate to seem like an alarmist, however, there is some state legislation making its way through the Florida Senate that could threaten SLIGP and PSBN funding going forward. The Florida Senate is expected to pass an appropriation bill next week that will move approximately \$10 million in State Homeland Security Grant funding to support hardening of schools throughout Florida. The \$10 million funding move has not been requested by the Florida Department of Education.

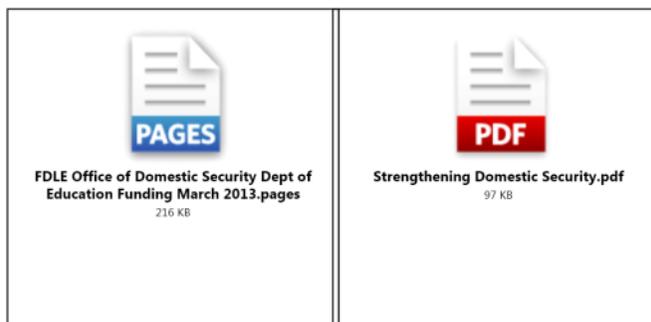
While everyone agrees that protecting children in our schools should be a statewide priority, it shouldn't come at the expense of other capabilities. The Senate is taking a myopic view in this regard.

I bring all this to everyone's attention because the Florida Interoperability Network (FIN), the Florida Fusion Center Network, and the Florida Law Enforcement Exchange (FLEX) System are all funded with HSGP funds. If the funding source for these systems goes away, then the legislature will either have to fund them or they must go away. If they go away, then Florida may have difficulty advancing a "system of systems" approach to the future PSBN.

As a member of the 2013-14 HSGP Funding Process Review Committee, I have been asked to reach out to all our future PSBN partners, stakeholders, users, and affiliates to conduct a "full court press" lobbying effort to save these vital networks. If we could at least get the legislature to start funding these networks, then our system of systems approach wouldn't be in jeopardy. How the funding reduction affects other State Working Group committees is not our collective concern. Saving the networks we plan to leverage for the future Florida Public Safety Network should be the chief concern of this group.

Please find, attached, two documents that should help make this case.

Rob



Discuss this message