Key Factors to Consider for the Governor to Opt-In or Opt-Out of the FirstNet Plan

Opt-In/Opt-Out Decision, under the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (the "Act"), takes place only after FirstNet delivers the final State Plan to the Governor. State Radio Access Network (RAN) must interconnect with the national FirstNet core network regardless of state decision.

The State Decision: One time

Opt-In — RAN only — FirstNet takes on responsibility to deploy, operate, and maintain RAN

- Funds to build network — funded by FirstNet/partner
- Funds to operate/upgrade network — funded by FirstNet/partner
- User fees — funded by individuals/agencies
- Continuing consultation — staffing funded for by the state, as needed or requested

Opt-Out — RAN only — state takes on responsibility to deploy, operate, and maintain RAN

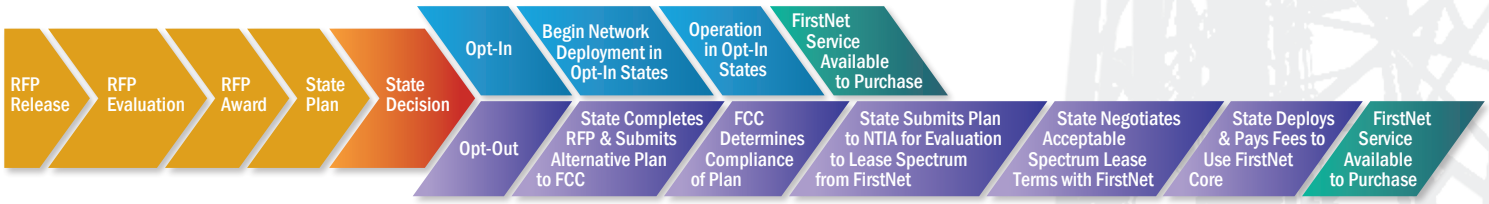
Alternative plan approval process –

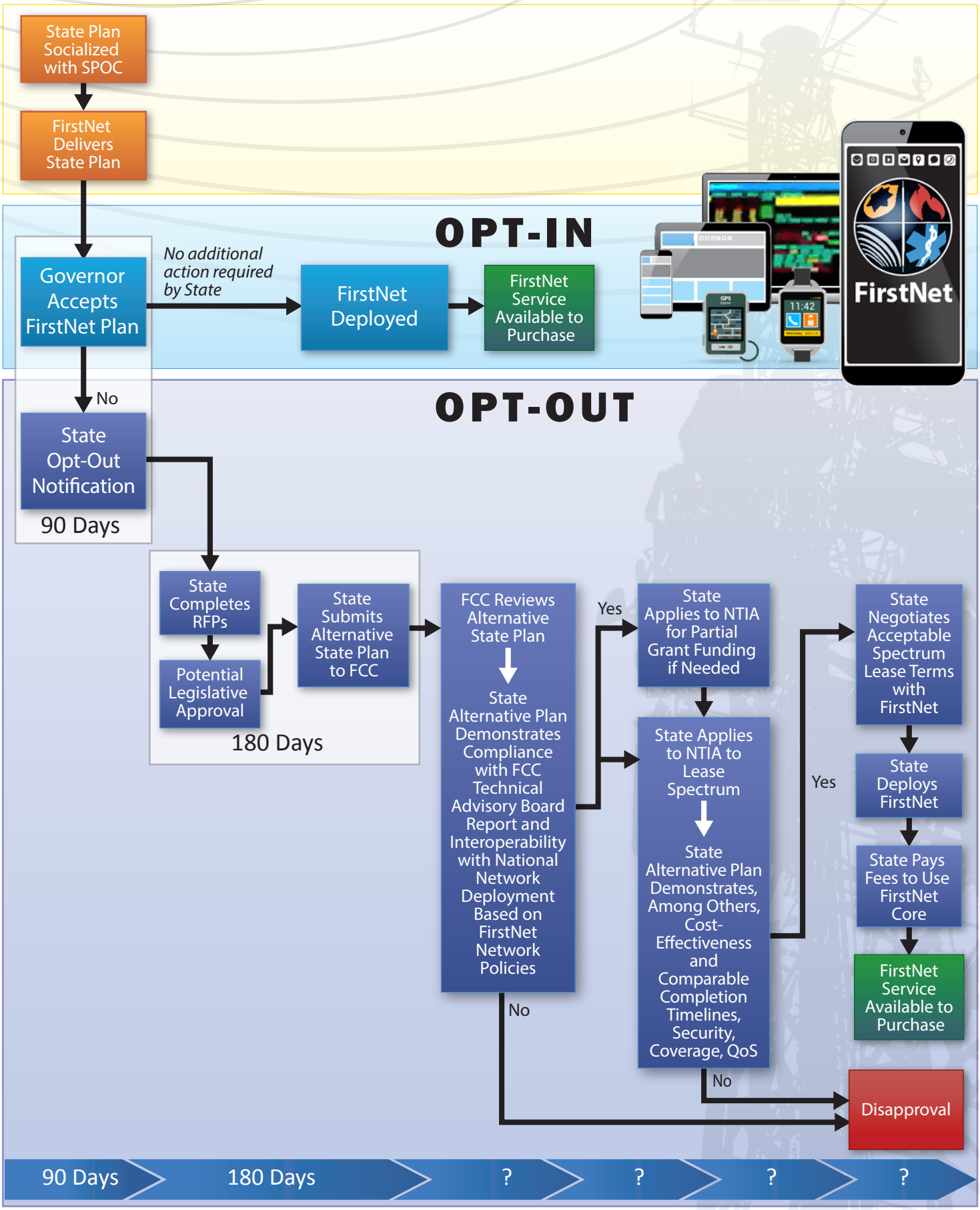
- – submission to and approval by FCC of the interoperability requirements under the Act of the alternative RAN plan
- – application to and approval by NTIA of technical interoperability and other Act requirements to negotiate spectrum lease terms with FirstNet
- – negotiation of spectrum capacity lease with FirstNet
- Funds to build network — funded by state resources with potential NTIA grant for some portion
- Funds to deploy, operate, and maintain network including compliance with national network policies and use of national core — funded by state resources
- User fees — funded by individuals/agencies

The Agency Decision: Ongoing

Agency by Agency buying of FirstNet services — once network is deployed

Key Steps – National Deployment



Questions? Contact FirstNet at info@firstnet.gov | www.firstnet.gov | 571-665-6100

Opt-In/Opt-Out Process