



April 20, 2026

The Honorable Brett Guthrie  
 Chairman  
 House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
 United States House of Representatives  
 Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
 Ranking Member  
 House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
 United States House of Representatives  
 Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Guthrie and Ranking Member Pallone:

On behalf of the national organizations representing the nation’s fire, emergency medical services, law enforcement, public safety communications, and emergency managers and the state and local government agencies that support them, we thank you for your leadership in developing legislation to preserve the federal First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet). Every day, FirstNet provides mission-critical communications so that local public safety officers can protect and provide lifesaving assistance to their citizens. We stand together in support of H.R. 7386, the First Responder Network Authority Reauthorization Act of 2026, as reported, and urge members of the House of Representatives to support this network.

We thank you for your efforts to address the needs of the public safety officers that use FirstNet on a daily basis. To prevent the termination of FirstNet next February, the reported legislation

would extend the life of the program to September 30, 2037. By increasing the representation of active public safety professionals on the FirstNet Board, the reported legislation would ensure that the FirstNet network that was built for public safety will continue to meet public safety's needs. The reported legislation would reinforce the FirstNet Authority's ability to deploy emergency response capabilities and resources to emergencies and disasters; set strategic priorities for the network; develop an annual budget and outline reinvestment decisions; and manage the device and application ecosystem within the FirstNet network in a timely manner without bureaucratic interference.

The FirstNet network continues to demonstrate its effectiveness during both national disasters and daily calls for fire, EMS, or law enforcement assistance. It is important that this national resource is not allowed to expire. We humbly request that the full House of Representatives pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

*International Association of Fire Chiefs*  
*Congressional Fire Services Institute*  
*International Association of Emergency Managers, U.S. Council*  
*International Association of Fire Fighters*  
*International City/County Management Association*  
*Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association*  
*National Association of Counties*  
*National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians*  
*National Association of State Chief Information Officers*  
*National Association of State Foresters*  
*National Conference of State Legislatures*  
*National Emergency Management Association*  
*National Fallen Firefighters Foundation*  
*National Fire Protection Association*  
*National League of Cities*  
*National Volunteer Fire Council*

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