



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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