



March 11, 2021

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.  
Chairman  
Committee on Energy and Commerce  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Anna Eshoo  
Co-Chair, Congressional NextGen 9-1-1 Caucus  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone and Representative Eshoo:

The undersigned nationwide public safety organizations, representing thousands of first responders and 9-1-1 professionals, express our sincere appreciation and gratitude for your many years of support for effective public safety communications. Your leadership in introducing the Next Generation 9-1-1 Act of 2021 as part of the LIFT America Act is the latest example of how your tireless efforts are constantly helping to build the capacity of our nation's first responders to serve and protect all communities across America.

As you know, despite the fact that 9-1-1 systems are critical infrastructure in every community, they are underfunded and technologically inadequate to address the needs and expectations of the American people in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. You and your dedicated staff have invested countless hours over many years working with our organizations to address this challenge and to craft legislation to fund a nationwide upgrade of our 9-1-1 systems.

While 9-1-1 operations are state and local functions, the investment of Federal resources in this critical infrastructure will ensure that all communities in the United States, be they rural, urban or tribal, will have a secure, resilient, interoperable, and reliable way of receiving, processing, and responding to requests for emergency assistance.

Our organizations will work to ensure strong support for this important and historic provision of the legislation, and we look forward to working closely with you and your offices to ensure its ultimate passage.

We thank you for your unwavering support of the public safety mission and for all of those who wear the uniform in service to our communities.

Sincerely,

Members of the Public Safety Next Generation 9-1-1 Coalition

International Association of Fire Chiefs

Major County Sheriffs of America

National Association of State EMS Officials

Major Cities Chiefs Association

National Sheriffs Association

International Association of Chiefs of Police

Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association

Association of Public Safety Communications Officials – International