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March 24, 2026

The Honorable S. Brett Guthrie
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank J. Pallone, Jr.
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard L. Hudson, Jr.
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications and
Technology
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Doris O. Matsui
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Communications and
Technology
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairs Guthrie and Hudson and Ranking Members Pallone and Matsui:

On behalf of the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), representing more than 35,000 police leaders throughout the United States and globally, I would like to thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to strengthening public safety communications. We appreciate the diligent work that you and your staffs have invested in drafting H.R. 7386 and in supporting the future of the First Responder Network Authority.

The IACP is grateful for the Committee’s sustained focus on ensuring that first responders have reliable, mission-critical communications. As you know, FirstNet has become a foundational component of modern public safety operations, providing priority, preemption, and resilient connectivity that officers depend on every day. Your ongoing commitment to preserving this capability is deeply appreciated by the public safety community.

At the same time, we respectfully offer our perspective as the Committee continues its consideration of H.R. 7386. **The IACP urges that the legislation remains a clean reauthorization focusing on extending the FirstNet Authority and preserving its ability to serve the nation’s first responders without introducing new structural complexities.**

President
Director David B. Rausch
Tennessee Bureau of Investigation

Immediate Past President
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*West University Place, TX
Police Department*

First Vice President
Chief Special Agent Will Johnson
BNSF Railway Police Department

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Dr. Avice Evans Reid
Knoxville City Government (Ret.)

Executive Director/
Chief Executive Officer
Vincent Talucci, CAE
Alexandria, VA

Deputy Executive Director/
Chief Operating Officer
Terrence M. Cunningham
Alexandria, VA

FirstNet's effectiveness has always relied on its clarity of mission, streamlined governance, and responsiveness to state, local, tribal, and territorial public safety agencies. As Congress examines reforms to the Authority, we encourage caution toward provisions that could unintentionally complicate governance processes, slow operational decision-making, or diffuse accountability. Maintaining FirstNet's independence, self-sustainability, and agility is essential to ensuring the network continues to evolve in step with the needs of frontline personnel.

A clean reauthorization, one that extends FirstNet's authority, ensures stable and predictable governance, and avoids unnecessary administrative changes, will best preserve the network's core purpose: supporting those who protect our communities.

Thank you again for your thoughtful stewardship of this legislation and for your ongoing collaboration with the public safety community. We look forward to continuing to work with you as the measure advances and stand ready to provide any additional assistance you may require.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Rausch', written in a cursive style.

David B. Rausch
President