



July 25, 2023

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Speaker of the House

The Honorable Steve Scalise
House Republican Leader

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
House Democratic Leader

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Chair
House Committee on Energy & Commerce

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
House Committee on Energy & Commerce

On behalf of the undersigned parties, we write to urge you to support prompt passage of legislation that would provide federal funding to upgrade our nation’s emergency response systems to Next Generation 9-1-1 technology (“NG911”). Each year, our nation’s 9-1-1 systems answer more than 240 million calls for help. These systems are vital to our communities’ safety and security. Unfortunately, most rely on outdated technologies that are increasingly failing and susceptible to cyber-based attacks. Continued reliance on these outdated systems put our citizens, communities, and nation at risk. Federal funding is needed to ensure that all parts of the country have access to advanced, secure, and reliable emergency response systems.

On May 24, 2023, the House Energy and Commerce Committee unanimously approved legislation that would satisfy this important national goal. The “*Spectrum Auction Reauthorization Act of 2023*” (H.R. 3565) would provide the Federal Communications Commission with new authority to auction spectrum licenses and use proceeds from future spectrum auctions to fund NG911. The legislation would provide up to \$14.8 billion to assist state and local authorities in upgrading their 9-1-1 systems and help to ensure greater system reliability, improved location capabilities, and interoperability amongst 9-1-1 centers. Importantly, these benefits would be achieved without any impact to the Federal budget, as NG911 upgrades would be paid for by future spectrum auctions.

We urge you to prioritize upgrading our nation’s emergency response systems. We urge you to support H.R. 3565 and the NG911 provisions, as they were approved by the Energy and Commerce Committee.

National Association of State 911
Administrators (NASNA)

National Association of Counties (NACo)

NENA: The 9-1-1 Association

Industry Council for Emergency Response
Technologies (iCERT)

National Association of State Regulatory
Commissioners (NARUC)