

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7386

To amend the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 to reauthorize the First Responder Network Authority, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 5, 2026

Mr. DUNN of Florida (for himself and Ms. McCLELLAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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## A BILL

To amend the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 to reauthorize the First Responder Network Authority, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “First Responder Network Authority Reauthorization Act  
6 of 2026”.

7 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
8 this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
- Sec. 2. Reauthorization of First Responder Network Authority.
- Sec. 3. Authority of NTIA over First Responder Network Authority.

- Sec. 4. Board of First Responder Network Authority.
- Sec. 5. Associate Administrator.
- Sec. 6. Components of nationwide public safety broadband network.
- Sec. 7. Flexibility in establishing fee amounts.
- Sec. 8. Reports to Congress on First Responder Network Authority.
- Sec. 9. Business continuity and disaster recovery plan.
- Sec. 10. Outage notifications.
- Sec. 11. Submission to Congress of FirstNet contract.
- Sec. 12. Definitions.

1 **SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF FIRST RESPONDER NET-**  
 2 **WORK AUTHORITY.**

3 Section 6206 of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job  
 4 Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1426) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (f), by striking “the date that  
 6 is 15 years after the date of enactment of this title”  
 7 and inserting “September 30, 2037”; and

8 (2) in subsection (g)—

9 (A) by striking “Not later than 10 years  
 10 after the date of the enactment of this Act”  
 11 and inserting “Not later than 7 years after the  
 12 date of the enactment of the First Responder  
 13 Network Authority Reauthorization Act of  
 14 2026”; and

15 (B) by striking “15-year sunset” and in-  
 16 serting “termination”.

17 **SEC. 3. AUTHORITY OF NTIA OVER FIRST RESPONDER NET-**  
 18 **WORK AUTHORITY.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle B of title VI of the Mid-  
 20 dle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47  
 21 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) in section 6204(a), by striking “as an inde-  
2 pendent authority”; and

3 (2) in section 6206—

4 (A) by redesignating subsections (d), (e),  
5 (f), and (g) as subsections (e), (f), (g), and (h),  
6 respectively;

7 (B) by inserting after subsection (c) the  
8 following:

9 “(d) ACTIONS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF NTIA.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Any action taken by the  
11 First Responder Network Authority shall be subject  
12 to the approval of the NTIA.

13 “(2) MANNER OF APPROVAL.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180  
15 days after the date of the enactment of this  
16 subsection, the NTIA shall, after providing an  
17 opportunity for public comment, develop a list  
18 of actions that do not require prior approval by  
19 the NTIA before the First Responder Network  
20 Authority may take such an action. The First  
21 Responder Network Authority may not take an  
22 action that, at the time when such action is  
23 taken, is not on such list, unless the NTIA has  
24 provided prior approval for such action.



1           “(iv) ensure that, on and after the  
2           date that is 3 years after the date of the  
3           enactment of the First Responder Network  
4           Authority Reauthorization Act of 2026, the  
5           Board includes not fewer than 5 individ-  
6           uals who have served as public safety pro-  
7           fessionals.”.

8           (b) STAGGERED TERMS.—

9           (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6204(c)(2) of the  
10          Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of  
11          2012 (47 U.S.C. 1424(c)(2)) is amended—

12                 (A) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking “3  
13                 years” and inserting “not more than 3 years”;  
14                 and

15                 (B) by striking subparagraph (D).

16          (2) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made  
17          by this subsection shall apply with respect to ap-  
18          pointments made on or after the date of the enact-  
19          ment of this Act.

20         **SEC. 5. ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR.**

21           (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6204 of the Middle Class  
22          Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C.  
23          1424) is amended by adding at the end the following:

24                 “(h) ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The First Responder Net-  
2           work Authority shall have an Associate Adminis-  
3           trator, which shall be a position in the Senior Execu-  
4           tive Service and who shall be appointed by the As-  
5           sistant Secretary.

6           “(2) DUTIES.—The Associate Administrator  
7           shall do the following:

8                   “(A) Subject to the direction of the Board  
9                   and approval by the NTIA under section  
10                  6206(d), manage the staff and operations of the  
11                  First Responder Network Authority in order to  
12                  ensure that the duties and responsibilities of  
13                  the First Responder Network Authority are car-  
14                  ried out.

15                  “(B) Serve as a liaison between the First  
16                  Responder Network Authority and the NTIA,  
17                  including with respect to ensuring compliance  
18                  by the First Responder Network Authority with  
19                  section 6206(d).

20           “(3) ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEWS.—The  
21           NTIA, in consultation with the Chair of the Board  
22           and any committee of the Board relating to govern-  
23           ance and risk, shall conduct an annual performance  
24           review of the Associate Administrator.”.

1 (b) CONTINUATION IN OFFICE.—The individual serv-  
2 ing as the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer  
3 of the First Responder Network Authority on the day be-  
4 fore the date of the enactment of this Act may serve as  
5 the Associate Administrator under subsection (h) of sec-  
6 tion 6204 of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation  
7 Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1424), as added by subsection  
8 (a), on and after such date of enactment without the need  
9 for appointment under such subsection (h).

10 **SEC. 6. COMPONENTS OF NATIONWIDE PUBLIC SAFETY**  
11 **BROADBAND NETWORK.**

12 Section 6202(b) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and  
13 Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1422(b)) is amend-  
14 ed, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking  
15 “and initially consists of” and inserting “and consists of  
16 such technologies, spectrum bands, and services as nec-  
17 essary to enable secure, interoperable, resilient, and  
18 prioritized broadband communications for public safety  
19 entities, including”.

20 **SEC. 7. FLEXIBILITY IN ESTABLISHING FEE AMOUNTS.**

21 Section 6208(b) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and  
22 Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1428(b)) is amend-  
23 ed—



1 preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by  
2 adding at the end the following:

3 **“SEC. 6214. ANNUAL REPORTS ON FIRST RESPONDER NET-**  
4 **WORK AUTHORITY.**

5 “(a) REPORT ON CYBERSECURITY MATTERS.—The  
6 NTIA shall submit to Congress an annual report that in-  
7 cludes information on cyberattacks, outages, and cyber de-  
8 fense efforts with respect to the nationwide public safety  
9 broadband network. Each such annual report shall be sub-  
10 mitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classified  
11 annex.

12 “(b) REPORT ON ADOPTION RATES.—The NTIA  
13 shall submit to Congress an annual report on adoption  
14 rates, by profession and geographic area, with respect to  
15 the nationwide public safety broadband network.”.

16 (c) ANNUAL BRIEFING.—Subtitle B of title VI of the  
17 Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012  
18 (47 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.), as amended by the preceding  
19 provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at  
20 the end the following:

21 **“SEC. 6215. ANNUAL BRIEFINGS ON FIRST RESPONDER**  
22 **NETWORK AUTHORITY.**

23 “Not later than 1 year after the date of the enact-  
24 ment of this section, and annually thereafter, the NTIA  
25 shall provide to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

1 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
2 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a  
3 briefing on activities with respect to the First Responder  
4 Network Authority.”.

5 **SEC. 9. BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND DISASTER RECOVERY**  
6 **PLAN.**

7 Subtitle B of title VI of the Middle Class Tax Relief  
8 and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.),  
9 as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is fur-  
10 ther amended by adding at the end the following:

11 **“SEC. 6216. BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND DISASTER RECOV-**  
12 **ERY PLAN.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after  
14 the date of the enactment of this section, and every 5  
15 years thereafter, the FirstNet contractor shall submit to  
16 the NTIA for approval a business continuity and disaster  
17 recovery plan to ensure rapid restoration of the nationwide  
18 public safety broadband network following an outage re-  
19 sulting from a natural disaster or other emergency.

20 “(b) TIMING OF APPROVAL OR REQUEST FOR RE-  
21 SUBMISSION.—Not later than 180 days after the date on  
22 which the NTIA receives a plan submitted under this sec-  
23 tion, the NTIA shall—

24 “(1) approve such plan; or

1           “(2) provide to the FirstNet contractor a writ-  
2       ten notice of—

3           “(A) the reasoning for not approving such  
4       plan; and

5           “(B) the timeframe and process, as deter-  
6       mined by the NTIA, for resubmitting such plan  
7       for approval.”.

8       **SEC. 10. OUTAGE NOTIFICATIONS.**

9       Subtitle B of title VI of the Middle Class Tax Relief  
10      and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.),  
11      as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is fur-  
12      ther amended by adding at the end the following:

13      **“SEC. 6217. OUTAGE NOTIFICATIONS.**

14           “‘In the case of any outage with respect to the nation-  
15      wide public safety broadband network—

16           “(1) as soon as practicable, but not later than  
17      30 minutes, after the FirstNet contractor has con-  
18      firmed such outage, the FirstNet contractor shall  
19      notify the First Responder Network Authority of  
20      such outage;

21           “(2) the FirstNet contractor shall provide to  
22      the departments and agencies that use such network  
23      a network status tool that provides timely informa-  
24      tion on such outage; and

1           “(3) after receiving a notification under para-  
2           graph (1), the First Responder Network Authority  
3           shall report such outage for purposes of the—

4                   “(A) Network Outage Reporting System of  
5                   the Federal Communications Commission; and

6                   “(B) Disaster Information Reporting Sys-  
7                   tem of the Federal Communications Commis-  
8                   sion.”.

9   **SEC. 11. SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS OF FIRSTNET CON-**  
10                   **TRACT.**

11           Subtitle B of title VI of the Middle Class Tax Relief  
12   and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.),  
13   as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is fur-  
14   ther amended by adding at the end the following:

15   **“SEC. 6218. SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS OF FIRSTNET CON-**  
16                   **TRACT.**

17           “Not later than 7 days after receiving a request, in  
18   writing, from the Chair and Ranking Member of the Com-  
19   mittee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Rep-  
20   resentatives, or from the Chair and Ranking Member of  
21   the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
22   of the Senate, the First Responder Network Authority  
23   shall submit to such Committee any contract between the  
24   First Responder Network Authority and the FirstNet con-

1 tractor with respect to building, operating, or maintaining  
2 the nationwide public safety broadband network.”.

3 **SEC. 12. DEFINITIONS.**

4 Section 6001 of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job  
5 Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1401) is amended—

6 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (19) through  
7 (33) as paragraphs (21) through (35), respectively;

8 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (15) through  
9 (18) as paragraphs (16) through (19), respectively;

10 (3) by inserting after paragraph (14) the fol-  
11 lowing:

12 “(15) **FIRSTNET CONTRACTOR.**—The term  
13 ‘FirstNet contractor’ means the entity that, under  
14 contract with the First Responder Network Author-  
15 ity, builds, operates, and maintains the nationwide  
16 public safety broadband network.”; and

17 (4) by inserting after paragraph (19) (as so re-  
18 designated) the following:

19 “(20) **INTEROPERABLE; INTEROPERABILITY.**—  
20 The terms ‘interoperable’ and ‘interoperability’ mean  
21 ensuring, and the ensuring of, respectively, commu-  
22 nications for public safety entities between networks,  
23 providers of commercial mobile service and commer-  
24 cial mobile data service, and jurisdictions through  
25 the use of commercial standards for mission-critical

1 services, quality of service, and priority mecha-  
2 nisms.”.

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