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□ 1410

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HARRIGAN) laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives: OFFICE OF THE CLERK, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Washington, DC, April 17, 2026.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON, The Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on April 17, 2026, at 11:15 a.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 8322.

With best wishes, I am, Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER, Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill and joint resolution were signed by the Speaker on Friday, April 17, 2026:

H.R. 8322, to amend the FISA Amendments Act of 2008 to extend the authorities of title VII of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 through April 30, 2026, and for other purposes; and

H.J. Res. 140, providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Land Management relating to Public Land Order No. 7917 for Withdrawal of Federal Lands; Cook, Lake, and Saint Louis Counties, MN.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 11 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1600

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. YAKYM) at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas

and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2026

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (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, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7386

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "First Responder Network Authority Reauthorization Act of 2026".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for 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.

SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY.

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

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

(2) in subsection (g)—

(A) by striking "Not later than 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act" and inserting "Not later than 7 years after the date of the enactment of the First Responder Network Authority Reauthorization Act of 2026";

(B) by striking "15-year sunset" and inserting "termination"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following: "Such report shall also contain recommendations for Congress and the NTIA regarding preparations for the expiration of any contract between the First Responder Network Authority and the FirstNet contractor with respect to building, operating, or maintaining the nationwide public safety broadband network."

SEC. 3. AUTHORITY OF NTIA OVER FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY.

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

(1) in section 6204(a), by striking "as an independent authority";

(2) in section 6206—

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

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

"(d) ACTIONS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF NTIA.—

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

"(2) MANNER OF APPROVAL.—

"(A) PRIOR APPROVAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the First Responder Network Authority may not take an action unless the NTIA has provided prior approval for such action.

"(B) ACTIONS FOR WHICH PRIOR APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED.—The First Responder Network Authority may take any of the following actions without prior approval by the NTIA:

"(i) Deploying emergency response capabilities and resources to emergencies and disasters.

"(ii) Setting strategic priorities and conducting planning activities with respect to the nationwide public safety broadband network.

"(iii) Maintaining and updating the First Responder Network Authority Strategic Plan and Roadmap or a similar document with respect to the growth, evolution, and advancement of the nationwide public safety broadband network.

"(iv) Establishing performance expectations and investment priorities with respect to the nationwide public safety broadband network.

"(v) Developing and adopting the annual budget of the First Responder Network Authority and outlining all network reinvestment decisions and task orders with respect to the nationwide public safety broadband network.

"(vi) Making written recommendations to the NTIA for action upon network reinvestment decisions and task orders with respect to the nationwide public safety broadband network.

"(vii) Managing the device and application ecosystem with respect to the nationwide public safety broadband network.

"(viii) Receiving reports from the Public Safety Advisory Committee or other advisory committees established by the First Responder Network Authority.

"(ix) Communicating with and conducting outreach to public safety entities and public safety professionals.

"(x) Reporting to and briefing Congress, in accordance with this subtitle.

"(xi) Such other actions as the NTIA may specify.

"(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to alter the requirement of subsection (c) of section 6208 that fees may only be assessed under such section if approved by the NTIA."; and

(C) in subsection (h) (as so redesignated), by striking "subsection (f)" and inserting "subsection (g)"; and

(3) in section 6208(d)—

(A) by striking "The First Responder Network Authority" and inserting the following:

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The First Responder Network Authority"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) NTIA ACTION ON NETWORK REINVESTMENT DECISIONS AND TASK ORDERS.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the NTIA receives a written recommendation from the First Responder Network Authority for action upon a network reinvestment decision or task order with respect to the nationwide public safety broadband network, the NTIA shall take action upon such network reinvestment decision or task order."

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 6205(b)(2) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1425(b)(2)) is amended by striking "If" and inserting "Subject to section 6206(d), if".

(c) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to—

(1) except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, actions taken by the First Responder Network Authority on or after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) in the case of paragraph (2) of section 6208(d) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job

Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1428(d)), as added by this section, written recommendations received by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 4. BOARD OF FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY.

(a) **PUBLIC SAFETY PROFESSIONALS.**—Section 6204(b)(2)(A) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1424(b)(2)(A)) is amended by amending clause (iv) to read as follows:

“(iv) ensure that, on and after the date that is 3 years after the date of the enactment of the First Responder Network Authority Reauthorization Act of 2026, the Board includes not fewer than 5 individuals serving as State, local, or Tribal public safety professionals in the fields of fire response services, emergency medical services, emergency management services, law enforcement, or 9–1–1 services.”.

(b) **STAGGERED TERMS.**—

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

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

(B) by amending subparagraph (D) to read as follows:

“(D) **STAGGERED TERMS.**—In making appointments under subsection (b)(1)(D), the Secretary of Commerce shall ensure that the terms of office of individuals so appointed are staggered, as the Secretary considers appropriate to reduce the likelihood that the terms of office of more than 4 such individuals will expire at the same time.”.

(2) **APPLICABILITY.**—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply with respect to appointments made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 5. ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR.

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

“(h) **ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The First Responder Network Authority shall have an Associate Administrator, who shall be a career appointee (as defined in section 3132(a) of title 5, United States Code) in the Senior Executive Service and who shall be appointed by the Assistant Secretary from among 3 individuals nominated by the Board. The Assistant Secretary shall make such appointment under the merit procedures applicable to appointing such career appointees under subchapter II of chapter 31 of such title 5.

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

“(A) Subject to the direction of the Board and approval by the Assistant Secretary under section 6206(d), manage the staff and operations of the First Responder Network Authority in order to ensure that the duties and responsibilities of the First Responder Network Authority are carried out.

“(B) Serve as a liaison between the Board and the Assistant Secretary, including with respect to ensuring compliance by the First Responder Network Authority with section 6206(d).

“(3) **ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEWS.**—The NTIA, in consultation with the Chair of the Board and any committee of the Board relating to governance and risk, shall conduct an annual performance review of the Associate Administrator.”.

(b) **CONTINUATION IN OFFICE.**—The individual serving as the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the First Responder Network Authority on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act may serve as the Associate Administrator under subsection (h) of section 6204 of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1424), as added by

subsection (a), on and after such date of enactment without the need for appointment under such subsection (h).

SEC. 6. COMPONENTS OF NATIONWIDE PUBLIC SAFETY BROADBAND NETWORK.

Section 6202(b) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1422(b)) is amended, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “and initially consists of” and inserting “and consists of such technologies and services as necessary to enable secure, interoperable, resilient, and prioritized broadband communications for public safety entities, including”.

SEC. 7. FLEXIBILITY IN ESTABLISHING FEE AMOUNTS.

Section 6208(b) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1428(b)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “(or other period specified by the First Responder Network Authority)” after “for each fiscal year”; and

(2) by striking “the fiscal year involved” and inserting “such fiscal year (or other period)”.

SEC. 8. REPORTS TO CONGRESS ON FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY.

(a) **ADDITIONAL MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED IN FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY AUDIT REPORT.**—Section 6209(b)(2) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1429(b)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) an evaluation of the performance of the FirstNet contractor under the contract in building, operating, and maintaining the nationwide public safety broadband network.”.

(b) **ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**—Subtitle B of title VI of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 6214. ANNUAL REPORTS ON FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY.

“(a) **REPORT ON NETWORK MATTERS.**—The NTIA shall submit to Congress an annual report that includes information on cyberattacks, cyber defense efforts, and unscheduled service outages of all causes with respect to the nationwide public safety broadband network. Each such annual report—

“(1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex; and

“(2) at the request of the Board, shall include a statement from the Board with respect to such information.

“(b) **REPORT ON ADOPTION RATES.**—The NTIA shall submit to Congress an annual report on adoption rates, by profession and geographic area, with respect to the nationwide public safety broadband network that, at the request of the Board, shall include a statement from the Board with respect to such adoption rates.”.

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

“SEC. 6215. ANNUAL BRIEFINGS ON FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY.

“Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this section, and annually thereafter, the NTIA shall provide to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a briefing on activities with respect to the First Responder Network Authority that, at the request of the Board, shall include the participation of the Chair of the Board (or a designee thereof).”.

SEC. 9. BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN.

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

“SEC. 6216. BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND DISASTER RECOVERY PLAN.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section, and every 5 years thereafter, the FirstNet contractor shall submit to the NTIA for approval, and to the Board for review, a business continuity and disaster recovery plan to ensure rapid restoration of the nationwide public safety broadband network following an outage resulting from a natural disaster or other emergency.

“(b) **TIMING OF APPROVAL OR REQUEST FOR RESUBMISSION.**—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the NTIA receives a plan submitted under this section, the NTIA, in consultation with the Board, shall—

“(1) approve such plan; or

“(2) provide to the FirstNet contractor a written notice of—

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

“(B) the timeframe and process, as determined by the NTIA, for resubmitting such plan for approval.”.

SEC. 10. OUTAGE NOTIFICATIONS.

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

“SEC. 6217. OUTAGE NOTIFICATIONS.

“In the case of any unscheduled service outage with respect to the nationwide public safety broadband network—

“(1) as soon as practicable, but not later than 30 minutes, after the FirstNet contractor has confirmed such outage, the FirstNet contractor shall notify the First Responder Network Authority of such outage; and

“(2) the FirstNet contractor shall provide to the departments and agencies that use such network a network status tool that provides timely information on such outage.”.

SEC. 11. SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS OF FIRSTNET CONTRACT.

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

“SEC. 6218. SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS OF FIRSTNET CONTRACT.

“Not later than 7 days after receiving a request, in writing, from the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, or from the Chair and Ranking Member of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to such Committee any contract between the First Responder Network Authority and the FirstNet contractor with respect to building, operating, or maintaining the nationwide public safety broadband network.”.

SEC. 12. DEFINITIONS.

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

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (15) through (33) as paragraphs (16) through (34), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (14) the following:

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

The **SPEAKER pro tempore**. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

Georgia (Mr. ALLEN) and the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. MCCLELLAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD on the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, H.R. 7386, the First Responder Network Authority Reauthorization Act, led by Representative DUNN. The First Responder Network Authority, FirstNet, was born to solve the problems first responders faced during the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

In 2012, Congress established FirstNet as the dedicated network for first responders so they would never again suffer the severe communication failures that undermined their ability to coordinate and respond to the attacks. Nearly 15 years later, FirstNet has become a vital tool for first responders nationwide, and it is time for Congress to reauthorize this program so they can continue to do their lifesaving work.

Plain and simple, this legislation reauthorizes this important tool for first responders and makes improvements to ensure long-term success of the network, while increasing transparency and accountability within the program.

This legislation has strong bipartisan support. I encourage my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in strong support of H.R. 7386, the First Responder Network Authority Reauthorization Act, and I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan bill.

On 9/11, first responders faced tremendous challenges in trying to communicate with each other and coordinate their response to the terrorist attacks. There was no dedicated network for public safety communications.

In 2012, Congress fixed that problem by authorizing the creation of the First Responder Network Authority, or FirstNet. FirstNet has become a cornerstone of our Nation's public safety communications. It ensures that first responders, no matter where they serve, have access to a reliable, interoperable, and resilient broadband network that prioritizes public safety when it matters most.

Today, that mission is more critical than ever. As natural disasters, extreme weather events, and emergencies grow more frequent and more complex, our first responders need communica-

tion capabilities supported by infrastructure they can depend on without fail.

This bill takes an important step forward, on a bipartisan basis, toward that goal. It reauthorizes FirstNet for 10 years, providing certainty for the public safety community for the foreseeable future. At the same time, it strengthens oversight, transparency, and the accountability of the FirstNet Authority, ensuring that this vital network remains responsive, effective, and worthy of the trust placed in it by first responders.

The bill also provides important clarity about the relationship between the board and the FirstNet Authority, ensuring that public safety officials remain at the core of decisionmaking.

Importantly, it strikes the right balance: preserving speed and operational continuity while ensuring that governance keeps pace with the scale and importance of the network. Oversight and stability are not competing goals. They complement one another for the benefit of public safety.

I thank Ranking Members PALLONE and MATSUI, Chairmen GUTHRIE and HUDSON, and my colleague Mr. DUNN of Florida for their leadership and partnership on advancing this bill.

This is a strong, bipartisan product, shaped through regular order in the Committee on Energy and Commerce with input from stakeholders. Ultimately, this legislation is grounded in a shared commitment to support those who put their lives on the line every single day.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 7386, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DUNN), my good friend.

Mr. DUNN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to be here in support of this bipartisan, common-sense bill to reauthorize the First Responder Network Authority.

I thank Chairman GUTHRIE and Chairman HUDSON for their work throughout this process, along with my colleague on the other side of the aisle, my friend Representative JENNIFER MCCLELLAN of Virginia, for co-leading this legislation with me.

The First Responder Network Authority, known as FirstNet, was established by Congress with a clear objective in mind: to build a preemptive network for the first responders that they can rely on in any emergency.

The brave men and women who risk their lives day in and out for our communities deserve nothing less than a resilient and dependable communication system.

FirstNet has delivered on this promise, and today, it is the backbone of public safety communication in the United States.

The authority governing FirstNet is set to expire in February 2027. Without

proper action, we are putting the safety of our first responders and our communities at risk.

This crucial legislation would extend that authority through September 2037, giving FirstNet the long-term certainty it needs to continue investing in our Nation's safety.

In the wake of some of the most destructive natural disasters in recent memory, the importance of this network could not be more clear.

My home State of Florida understands all too well how devastating these natural disasters can be. My district has endured literally dozens of hurricanes and tropical storms in the last 10 years, most notably Hurricane Michael in 2018.

In those moments when every second counts, when innocent lives are on the line, the question of whether or not first responders can communicate with one another should never be in doubt.

At this time, I would like to take a moment to recognize the brave men and women who step forward when others step back.

I give a special thank-you to Walton County's very own Sheriff Michael Adkinson for his leadership in underscoring the imperative nature of FirstNet.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support this bill.

Ms. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BOST), my good friend.

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today as chairman of the Fire Services Caucus and as a former firefighter myself to speak in support of the reauthorization of FirstNet.

This bill is about making sure that the people are on the front lines and can do their jobs safely and effectively.

This year, we mark the 25th anniversary of 9/11, one of the darkest days in American history. After September 11, we learned what happens when communications fail. Firefighters, police, and EMS could not talk to each other across agencies. That breakdown made an already dangerous situation even worse.

Congress created FirstNet to fix that by building a dedicated nationwide network just for public safety. The legislation keeps the network in place and makes it stronger. It extends FirstNet for another 10 years so departments aren't left guessing about whether the system will still be there. It increases public safety representation on the board of FirstNet from three to five members, which means more firefighters and first responders helping guide how the network is built and improved.

□ 1610

It also allows the network to invest in newer technology, not just what was defined over a decade ago.

Anyone who is in the fire service knows the tools change. Communications systems have to keep up, or they fall behind very quickly.

There are also real accountability measures here such as annual reports on cybersecurity, independent evaluations of the contractors, and requiring plans to restore service after disasters.

If there is an outage, departments have to be notified within 30 minutes. That is the kind of standard first responders expect.

When I first joined the fire service, we did not always have dedicated networks like this. You were dealing with radios that did not always connect across jurisdictions. You were relaying messages instead of getting them directly. A system like this would have cut through that and made the response more coordinated.

This is not complicated. Better communications lead to better coordination, and that saves lives.

This passed out of committee 51-0. This agreement shows how important it is. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this effort.

Ms. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H.R. 7386, the First Responder Network Authority Reauthorization Act.

Again, this not only implements the lessons learned from 9/11, but this bill strengthens the FirstNet Authority so that ultimately a network that could not have been imagined in 2001 now will be always available, dedicated, and interoperable for our first responders so that they know they can do their job and not worry about their communication system going down.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from Virginia for her support of this important legislation.

Like I said, this is a bipartisan bill, and I urge support of this bill and ask for immediate passage.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7386, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MYSTIC ALERTS ACT

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7022) to provide for the transmission of emergency alerts by satellite, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7022

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Mystic Alerts Act".

SEC. 2. TRANSMISSION OF EMERGENCY ALERTS BY SATELLITE.

(a) SERVICE PROVIDER ELECTION.—

(1) REQUIRED FILING.—Not later than 60 days after the effective date of the final rule required to be issued under subsection (b), each covered service provider shall file an election with the Federal Communications Commission with respect to whether the provider intends to transmit emergency alerts by satellite to the subscribers of the commercial mobile service of the provider who receive such service on devices capable of receiving such alerts, in addition to the transmission of emergency alerts under the Warning Alert, and Response Network Act.

(2) NOTIFICATION; AGREEMENT.—If a provider elects to transmit emergency alerts to subscribers by satellite under paragraph (1), the provider shall—

(A) notify the Commission of that election; and

(B) agree to transmit such alerts in a manner consistent with the technical standards, protocols, procedures, and other technical requirements implemented by the Commission.

(3) ELECTION NOT TO TRANSMIT.—If a provider elects not to transmit emergency alerts by satellite under paragraph (1), the provider shall provide notice to new and existing subscribers described in such paragraph of that election in the same manner that is required under subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 602(b)(1) of the Warning, Alert, and Response Network Act.

(4) CONSUMER CHOICE TO OPT OUT.—If a provider elects to transmit emergency alerts to subscribers of such service by satellite under paragraph (1), the provider shall prevent the device of any such subscriber that opts out of receiving emergency alerts pursuant to section 602(b)(2)(E) of the Warning, Alert, and Response Network Act, or classes of such alerts, from receiving such alerts by satellite.

(5) NO FEE FOR SERVICE.—If a provider elects to transmit emergency alerts to subscribers by satellite under paragraph (1), the provider may not impose a separate or additional charge for such transmission or capability.

(b) SATELLITE ALERT REGULATIONS.—

(1) NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall publish a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to establish any requirements necessary to facilitate the satellite alerting capability of covered service providers.

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements required by paragraph (1) shall—

(A) take into account the capability of—

(i) satellites to transmit emergency alerts; and

(ii) mobile devices to receive and display such alerts; and

(B) minimize the impact of emergency alerting on other voice and data communications, including 9-1-1 communications.

(3) FINAL RULE.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, issue a final rule establishing the requirements described under paragraph (1).

(4) EFFECTIVE DATE OF RULE.—

(A) DATE.—The effective date of the final rule described under paragraph (3) shall be the later of—

(i) 36 months after publication of the final rule in the Federal Register; or

(ii) 12 months after the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Administrator of the Federal

Emergency Management Agency implement any standards, protocols, or procedures necessary to support the transmission of emergency alerts from alert originators to covered service providers, the Secretary and the Administrator shall notify the Commission of such implementation.

(B) NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary of Homeland Security and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall notify the Commission of the implementation of any standards, protocols, or procedures described under subparagraph (A)(ii) for the purpose of determining the effective date of the final rule described under paragraph (3).

(c) LIMITATION OF LIABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Any covered service provider (including its officers, directors, employees, vendors, and agents) that transmits emergency alerts by satellite and meets its obligations under this Act shall not be liable to any subscriber to, or user of, such person's service or equipment for—

(A) any act or omission related to or any harm resulting from the transmission of, or failure to transmit, an emergency alert by satellite; or

(B) the release to a government agency or entity, public safety, fire service, law enforcement official, emergency medical service, or emergency facility of subscriber information used in connection with delivering such an alert.

(2) ELECTION NOT TO TRANSMIT ALERTS BY SATELLITE.—The election by a covered service provider under subsection (a)(3) not to transmit emergency alerts by satellite shall not, by itself, provide a basis for liability against the provider (including its officers, directors, employees, vendors, and agents).

(d) COVERED SERVICE PROVIDER.—In this Act, "covered service provider" means a provider of commercial mobile service that—

(1) voluntarily elects to transmit emergency alerts under section 602(b) of the Warning, Alert, and Response Network Act (Public Law 109-347; 42 U.S.C. 1201); and

(2) makes satellite voice and data communications service available to subscribers of the commercial mobile service of the provider.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN) and the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. MCCLELLAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD on the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill, H.R. 7022, the Mystic Alerts Act, led by Representative PFLUGER.

While we work to increase cell phone connectivity across the country, there are and may always be certain areas of this country that do not have access to that connectivity.

That can be a problem in times of natural disasters or other emergencies. If you don't have a connection, you may not be able to receive a wireless emergency alert or other emergency notifications. Satellite technology is beginning to bridge that gap with our