



# APCO International

*Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International, Inc.*

## INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mark Cannon  
cannonm@apcointl.org

## HEADQUARTERS

351 North Williamson Boulevard  
Daytona Beach, FL 32114-1112  
Phone: 888-APCO-911 or 386-322-2500  
apco@apcointl.org  
www.apcointl.org

## OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

1426 Prince Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
Phone: 571-312-4400

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July 8, 2011

The Honorable John D. Dingell  
2328 Rayburn House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-2215

Dear Congressman Dingell:

On behalf of the more than 14,000 members of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International and the 200,000 public safety professionals we serve each year, we strongly support your introduction of companion legislation to the bipartisan Senate bill, S. 911 – the *Public Safety Spectrum and Wireless Innovation Act of 2011*, which was recently favorably voted out of the Senate Commerce Committee on a 21-4 vote with overwhelming bipartisan support.

As a senior member and former Chairman of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, your introduction of this companion bill includes key legislative principles that the public safety, first responder and state and local government communities have championed as a top priority issue for Congress to enact this year ahead of the the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the tragic events of 9/11. Specifically, your legislation would: (1) allocate the entire 10 MHz D Block within the 700 band to public safety, (2) reauthorize the Federal Communications Commission to conduct spectrum auctions in the future to boost the economy and raise revenue to pay down the debt and fund other programs, and (3) authorize voluntary incentive auctions to generate tens of billions in new revenue, including up to \$10 billion for debt reduction and \$11 billion to help fund the nationwide interoperable public safety broadband network. Much like S.911, your legislation meets an outstanding recommendation of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission, as recently reiterated in testimony before Congress.

We thank you for your leadership in sponsoring this critical legislation. We urge the House Energy and Commerce Committee to move swiftly to co-sponsor and pass this legislation in order to bring it to the House floor immediately. We look forward to working with you on this top priority public safety issue in the coming days and weeks toward final enactment ahead of the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 9/11.

Sincerely,

William D. Carrow  
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