



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

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July 11, 2011

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

Dear Congressman Dingell:

On behalf of the nearly 13,000 chief fire and emergency officers of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), I am writing to express our strong support for your introduction of H.R. 2482, the Public Safety Spectrum and Wireless Innovation Act, as a companion to S. 911, the Strengthening Public-safety and Enhancing Communications Through Reform, Utilization, and Modernization Act. This legislation would fulfill one of the outstanding recommendations of the 9/11 Commission, and improve the nation's response to future national disasters, both natural and man-made.

Your legislation includes key legislative principles that the first responders and state and local governments have designated as a top priority for passage before the tenth anniversary of the tragic events of September 11, 2001. Specifically, it would allocate the 10 MHz of the D Block in the 700 MHz band to public safety for the creation and implementation of a nationwide public safety wireless broadband network and authorize the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to conduct voluntary incentive spectrum auctions to fund the construction, operation and maintenance of the public safety wireless broadband network and reduce the federal deficit.

The IAFC thanks you for your leadership in sponsoring this critical legislation. We look forward to working with you and the other members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee to pass H.R. 2482 in order to bring it to the House Floor. It is vitally important that Congress address this remaining recommendation of the 9/11 Commission before September 11, 2011.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John E. Parow".

Chief Jack Parow, MA, EFO, CFO
President and Chairman of the Board