



Public Safety Alliance

Dedicated to First Responders...First

CALL TO ACTION

Write: Sample letter to your U.S. Senators

The Honorable (full name)
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

As a public safety professional, voter, and your constituent, I urge you to become a cosponsor of S. 3756, the Public Safety Spectrum and Wireless Innovation Act of 2010, introduced by Senator John (Jay) Rockefeller, IV (D – WV), Chairman of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

The Public Safety Spectrum and Wireless Innovation Act would:

- Establish a framework for the deployment of a nationwide interoperable wireless broadband network for public safety;
- Allocate 10 MHz of spectrum, known as the D Block, to public safety;
- Direct the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to develop technical and operational standards to ensure nationwide interoperability and build-out (including in rural areas);
- Direct the FCC to establish standards that allow public safety officials, when not using the network, to lease capacity on a secondary, but preemptive basis to non-public safety entities, including other governmental users and commercial users; and
- Provide the FCC with incentive auction authority, which allows existing spectrum licensees to voluntarily relinquish their airwaves in exchange for a portion of the proceeds of the commercial auction of their spectrum. The funds from these incentive auctions, in conjunction with funds from the auction of other specified spectrum bands, and funds earned from leasing the public safety network on a secondary basis, will be used to fund the construction and maintenance of the nationwide interoperable wireless broadband public safety network.

This legislation builds on the growing support in Congress from Senators Joe Lieberman (I – Conn.) and John McCain (R – Ariz.) who introduced S. 3625 – The First Responders Protection Act of 2010; Representatives Peter King (3rd Dist., NY) and Yvette Clarke (11th Dist., NY), who introduced H.R. 5081 – Broadband for First Responders Act of 2010, which now has more than 68 cosponsors; and Representative Henry Waxman (30th Dist., CA), Chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, whose draft language was the catalyst to identifying the necessary funding to build out and maintain a nationwide interoperable public safety broadband network.

Public safety officials, including sheriffs, police chiefs, fire chiefs, police officers, state troopers, volunteer fire fighters, and emergency medical service officials in your state are united in their strong support for the allocation of the D Block to public safety and the establishment of a funding program to construct and maintain a nationwide interoperable wireless broadband network that will improve our nation's homeland security and provide first responders with advanced voice, video and data communications technologies that are urgently needed. Please visit www.psafirst.org to learn why this issue is so important to public safety professionals in your state and across the country.

Thank you for your support of our nation's first responders who put their lives on the line every day to protect and serve our communities, and I look forward to receiving a response in support of S. 3756 from your office.

Sincerely,

Title
Agency