Resolution Expressing Support for Legislation to Improve the Nation's 9-1-1 System

Whereas the numbers and services associated with 9-1-1 have come a long way since their origins and inception in the 1960's;

Whereas forces of technology and heightened security interest, among others, are propelling 9-1-1 into a national framework;

Whereas increasingly emergency responders and 9-1-1 professionals continue to face challenges of modern communications capabilities, the proliferation of wireless phones, PBX E9-1-1 availability, Voice over IP, increased security warnings, terror related emergencies, and the need for long term funding strategies and priorities;

Whereas the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 made 9-1-1 the universal emergency number and is a roadmap for improved coordination, deployment and implementation of enhanced "E9-1-1" services;

Whereas current legislation is needed to authorize grants for improved deployment of enhanced 9-1-1 services, stop the diversion of 9-1-1 funds for other purposes, and enable improved coordination and leadership in our nation's emergency communications capabilities;

Be is resolved that the Congressional Fire Service Institute and the Members of the National Advisory Committee support pending legislation before Congress (S. 1250 and HR. 2898) to improve our nation's emergency response capabilities and provide a long term vision for deploying E9-1-1 capabilities from any device, any time and every where.

Be it further resolved that current legislation is only an authorization and we would like to see monies appropriated for these purposes for FY 2005 and 06.'

Resolution offered by the National Emergency Number Association