

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

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.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 5, 2026

Mr. DUNN of Florida (for himself and Ms. McCLELLAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 to reauthorize the First Responder Network Authority, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “First Responder Network Authority Reauthorization Act
6 of 2026”.

7 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
8 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.

1 **SEC. 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF FIRST RESPONDER NET-**
 2 **WORK AUTHORITY.**

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

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

8 (2) in subsection (g)—

9 (A) by striking “Not later than 10 years
 10 after the date of the enactment of this Act”
 11 and inserting “Not later than 7 years after the
 12 date of the enactment of the First Responder
 13 Network Authority Reauthorization Act of
 14 2026”; and

15 (B) by striking “15-year sunset” and in-
 16 serting “termination”.

17 **SEC. 3. AUTHORITY OF NTIA OVER FIRST RESPONDER NET-**
 18 **WORK AUTHORITY.**

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

1 (1) in section 6204(a), by striking “as an inde-
2 pendent authority”; and

3 (2) in section 6206—

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

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

9 “(d) ACTIONS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL OF NTIA.—

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

13 “(2) MANNER OF APPROVAL.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180
15 days after the date of the enactment of this
16 subsection, the NTIA shall, after providing an
17 opportunity for public comment, develop a list
18 of actions that do not require prior approval by
19 the NTIA before the First Responder Network
20 Authority may take such an action. The First
21 Responder Network Authority may not take an
22 action that, at the time when such action is
23 taken, is not on such list, unless the NTIA has
24 provided prior approval for such action.

1 “(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing
 2 in subparagraph (A) may be construed to alter
 3 the requirement of subsection (c) of section
 4 6208 that fees may only be assessed under such
 5 section if approved by the NTIA.”; and

6 (C) in subsection (h) (as so redesignated),
 7 by striking “subsection (f)” and inserting “sub-
 8 section (g)”.

9 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 6205(b)(2)
 10 of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of
 11 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1425(b)(2)) is amended by striking “If”
 12 and inserting “Subject to section 6206(d), if”.

13 (c) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this
 14 section shall apply with respect to actions taken by the
 15 First Responder Network Authority on or after the date
 16 on which the list required by subsection (d)(2) of section
 17 6206 of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation
 18 Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1426), as amended by this Act,
 19 is developed.

20 **SEC. 4. BOARD OF FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHOR-**
 21 **ITY.**

22 (a) PUBLIC SAFETY PROFESSIONALS.—Section
 23 6204(b)(2)(A) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job
 24 Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1424(b)(2)(A)) is
 25 amended by amending clause (iv) to read as follows:

1 “(iv) ensure that, on and after the
2 date that is 3 years after the date of the
3 enactment of the First Responder Network
4 Authority Reauthorization Act of 2026, the
5 Board includes not fewer than 5 individ-
6 uals who have served as public safety pro-
7 fessionals.”.

8 (b) STAGGERED TERMS.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6204(c)(2) of the
10 Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of
11 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1424(c)(2)) is amended—

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

15 (B) by striking subparagraph (D).

16 (2) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made
17 by this subsection shall apply with respect to ap-
18 pointments made on or after the date of the enact-
19 ment of this Act.

20 **SEC. 5. ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6204 of the Middle Class
22 Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C.
23 1424) is amended by adding at the end the following:

24 “(h) ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The First Responder Net-
2 work Authority shall have an Associate Adminis-
3 trator, which shall be a position in the Senior Execu-
4 tive Service and who shall be appointed by the As-
5 sistant Secretary.

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

8 “(A) Subject to the direction of the Board
9 and approval by the NTIA under section
10 6206(d), manage the staff and operations of the
11 First Responder Network Authority in order to
12 ensure that the duties and responsibilities of
13 the First Responder Network Authority are car-
14 ried out.

15 “(B) Serve as a liaison between the First
16 Responder Network Authority and the NTIA,
17 including with respect to ensuring compliance
18 by the First Responder Network Authority with
19 section 6206(d).

20 “(3) ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEWS.—The
21 NTIA, in consultation with the Chair of the Board
22 and any committee of the Board relating to govern-
23 ance and risk, shall conduct an annual performance
24 review of the Associate Administrator.”.

1 (b) CONTINUATION IN OFFICE.—The individual serv-
2 ing as the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer
3 of the First Responder Network Authority on the day be-
4 fore the date of the enactment of this Act may serve as
5 the Associate Administrator under subsection (h) of sec-
6 tion 6204 of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation
7 Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1424), as added by subsection
8 (a), on and after such date of enactment without the need
9 for appointment under such subsection (h).

10 **SEC. 6. COMPONENTS OF NATIONWIDE PUBLIC SAFETY**
11 **BROADBAND NETWORK.**

12 Section 6202(b) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and
13 Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1422(b)) is amend-
14 ed, in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking
15 “and initially consists of” and inserting “and consists of
16 such technologies, spectrum bands, and services as nec-
17 essary to enable secure, interoperable, resilient, and
18 prioritized broadband communications for public safety
19 entities, including”.

20 **SEC. 7. FLEXIBILITY IN ESTABLISHING FEE AMOUNTS.**

21 Section 6208(b) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and
22 Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1428(b)) is amend-
23 ed—

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

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

6 **SEC. 8. REPORTS TO CONGRESS ON FIRST RESPONDER**
7 **NETWORK AUTHORITY.**

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

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

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

17 (3) by adding at the end the following:

18 “(D) an evaluation of the performance of
19 the FirstNet contractor under the contract in
20 building, operating, and maintaining the nation-
21 wide public safety broadband network.”.

22 (b) **ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**—Subtitle B of
23 title VI of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation
24 Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.), as amended by the

1 preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by
2 adding at the end the following:

3 **“SEC. 6214. ANNUAL REPORTS ON FIRST RESPONDER NET-**
4 **WORK AUTHORITY.**

5 “(a) REPORT ON CYBERSECURITY MATTERS.—The
6 NTIA shall submit to Congress an annual report that in-
7 cludes information on cyberattacks, outages, and cyber de-
8 fense efforts with respect to the nationwide public safety
9 broadband network. Each such annual report shall be sub-
10 mitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classified
11 annex.

12 “(b) REPORT ON ADOPTION RATES.—The NTIA
13 shall submit to Congress an annual report on adoption
14 rates, by profession and geographic area, with respect to
15 the nationwide public safety broadband network.”.

16 (c) ANNUAL BRIEFING.—Subtitle B of title VI of the
17 Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012
18 (47 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.), as amended by the preceding
19 provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at
20 the end the following:

21 **“SEC. 6215. ANNUAL BRIEFINGS ON FIRST RESPONDER**
22 **NETWORK AUTHORITY.**

23 “Not later than 1 year after the date of the enact-
24 ment of this section, and annually thereafter, the NTIA
25 shall provide to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

1 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
2 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a
3 briefing on activities with respect to the First Responder
4 Network Authority.”.

5 **SEC. 9. BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND DISASTER RECOVERY**
6 **PLAN.**

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

11 **“SEC. 6216. BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND DISASTER RECOV-**
12 **ERY PLAN.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after
14 the date of the enactment of this section, and every 5
15 years thereafter, the FirstNet contractor shall submit to
16 the NTIA for approval a business continuity and disaster
17 recovery plan to ensure rapid restoration of the nationwide
18 public safety broadband network following an outage re-
19 sulting from a natural disaster or other emergency.

20 “(b) TIMING OF APPROVAL OR REQUEST FOR RE-
21 SUBMISSION.—Not later than 180 days after the date on
22 which the NTIA receives a plan submitted under this sec-
23 tion, the NTIA shall—

24 “(1) approve such plan; or

1 “(2) provide to the FirstNet contractor a writ-
2 ten notice of—

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

5 “(B) the timeframe and process, as deter-
6 mined by the NTIA, for resubmitting such plan
7 for approval.”.

8 **SEC. 10. OUTAGE NOTIFICATIONS.**

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

13 **“SEC. 6217. OUTAGE NOTIFICATIONS.**

14 “In the case of any outage with respect to the nation-
15 wide public safety broadband network—

16 “(1) as soon as practicable, but not later than
17 30 minutes, after the FirstNet contractor has con-
18 firmed such outage, the FirstNet contractor shall
19 notify the First Responder Network Authority of
20 such outage;

21 “(2) the FirstNet contractor shall provide to
22 the departments and agencies that use such network
23 a network status tool that provides timely informa-
24 tion on such outage; and

1 “(3) after receiving a notification under para-
2 graph (1), the First Responder Network Authority
3 shall report such outage for purposes of the—

4 “(A) Network Outage Reporting System of
5 the Federal Communications Commission; and

6 “(B) Disaster Information Reporting Sys-
7 tem of the Federal Communications Commis-
8 sion.”.

9 **SEC. 11. SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS OF FIRSTNET CON-**
10 **TRACT.**

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

15 **“SEC. 6218. SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS OF FIRSTNET CON-**
16 **TRACT.**

17 “Not later than 7 days after receiving a request, in
18 writing, from the Chair and Ranking Member of the Com-
19 mittee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Rep-
20 resentatives, or from the Chair and Ranking Member of
21 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
22 of the Senate, the First Responder Network Authority
23 shall submit to such Committee any contract between the
24 First Responder Network Authority and the FirstNet con-

1 tractor with respect to building, operating, or maintaining
2 the nationwide public safety broadband network.”.

3 **SEC. 12. DEFINITIONS.**

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

6 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (19) through
7 (33) as paragraphs (21) through (35), respectively;

8 (2) by redesignating paragraphs (15) through
9 (18) as paragraphs (16) through (19), respectively;

10 (3) by inserting after paragraph (14) the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(15) FIRSTNET CONTRACTOR.—The term
13 ‘FirstNet contractor’ means the entity that, under
14 contract with the First Responder Network Author-
15 ity, builds, operates, and maintains the nationwide
16 public safety broadband network.”; and

17 (4) by inserting after paragraph (19) (as so re-
18 designated) the following:

19 “(20) INTEROPERABLE; INTEROPERABILITY.—
20 The terms ‘interoperable’ and ‘interoperability’ mean
21 ensuring, and the ensuring of, respectively, commu-
22 nications for public safety entities between networks,
23 providers of commercial mobile service and commer-
24 cial mobile data service, and jurisdictions through
25 the use of commercial standards for mission-critical

1 services, quality of service, and priority mecha-
2 nisms.”.

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