

Union Calendar No. 533

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7386

[Report No. 119–615]

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

APRIL 15, 2026

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on February 5, 2026]

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.*

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

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

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

16 (2) *in subsection (g)—*

17 (A) *by striking “Not later than 10 years*
 18 *after the date of the enactment of this Act” and*
 19 *inserting “Not later than 7 years after the date*

1 *of the enactment of the First Responder Network*
 2 *Authority Reauthorization Act of 2026”;*

3 *(B) by striking “15-year sunset” and insert-*
 4 *ing “termination”; and*

5 *(C) by adding at the end the following:*
 6 *“Such report shall also contain recommendations*
 7 *for Congress and the NTIA regarding prepara-*
 8 *tions for the expiration of any contract between*
 9 *the First Responder Network Authority and the*
 10 *FirstNet contractor with respect to building, op-*
 11 *erating, or maintaining the nationwide public*
 12 *safety broadband network.”.*

13 **SEC. 3. AUTHORITY OF NTIA OVER FIRST RESPONDER NET-**
 14 **WORK AUTHORITY.**

15 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle B of title VI of the Middle*
 16 *Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C.*
 17 *1421 et seq.) is amended—*

18 *(1) in section 6204(a), by striking “as an inde-*
 19 *pendent authority”;*

20 *(2) in section 6206—*

21 *(A) by redesignating subsections (d), (e), (f),*
 22 *and (g) as subsections (e), (f), (g), and (h), re-*
 23 *spectively;*

24 *(B) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-*
 25 *lowing:*

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

2 “(1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Any action taken by the*
3 *First Responder Network Authority shall be subject to*
4 *the approval of the NTIA.*

5 “(2) *MANNER OF APPROVAL.*—

6 “(A) *PRIOR APPROVAL.*—*Except as pro-*
7 *vided in subparagraph (B), the First Responder*
8 *Network Authority may not take an action un-*
9 *less the NTIA has provided prior approval for*
10 *such action.*

11 “(B) *ACTIONS FOR WHICH PRIOR APPROVAL*
12 *NOT REQUIRED.*—*The First Responder Network*
13 *Authority may take any of the following actions*
14 *without prior approval by the NTIA:*

15 “(i) *Deploying emergency response ca-*
16 *pabilities and resources to emergencies and*
17 *disasters.*

18 “(ii) *Setting strategic priorities and*
19 *conducting planning activities with respect*
20 *to the nationwide public safety broadband*
21 *network.*

22 “(iii) *Maintaining and updating the*
23 *First Responder Network Authority Stra-*
24 *tegic Plan and Roadmap or a similar docu-*
25 *ment with respect to the growth, evolution,*

1 *and advancement of the nationwide public*
2 *safety broadband network.*

3 “(iv) *Establishing performance expect-*
4 *tations and investment priorities with re-*
5 *spect to the nationwide public safety*
6 *broadband network.*

7 “(v) *Developing and adopting the an-*
8 *nual budget of the First Responder Network*
9 *Authority and outlining all network rein-*
10 *vestment decisions and task orders with re-*
11 *spect to the nationwide public safety*
12 *broadband network.*

13 “(vi) *Making written recommendations*
14 *to the NTIA for action upon network rein-*
15 *vestment decisions and task orders with re-*
16 *spect to the nationwide public safety*
17 *broadband network.*

18 “(vii) *Managing the device and appli-*
19 *cation ecosystem with respect to the nation-*
20 *wide public safety broadband network.*

21 “(viii) *Receiving reports from the Pub-*
22 *lic Safety Advisory Committee or other ad-*
23 *visory committees established by the First*
24 *Responder Network Authority.*

1 “(ix) *Communicating with and con-*
 2 *ducting outreach to public safety entities*
 3 *and public safety professionals.*

4 “(x) *Reporting to and briefing Con-*
 5 *gress, in accordance with this subtitle.*

6 “(xi) *Such other actions as the NTIA*
 7 *may specify.*

8 “(C) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in*
 9 *this paragraph may be construed to alter the re-*
 10 *quirement of subsection (c) of section 6208 that*
 11 *fees may only be assessed under such section if*
 12 *approved by the NTIA.”; and*

13 *(C) in subsection (h) (as so redesignated),*
 14 *by striking “subsection (f)” and inserting “sub-*
 15 *section (g)”;* and

16 *(3) in section 6208(d)—*

17 *(A) by striking “The First Responder Net-*
 18 *work Authority” and inserting the following:*

19 “(1) *IN GENERAL.—The First Responder Net-*
 20 *work Authority”; and*

21 *(B) by adding at the end the following:*

22 “(2) *NTIA ACTION ON NETWORK REINVESTMENT*
 23 *DECISIONS AND TASK ORDERS.—Not later than 60*
 24 *days after the date on which the NTIA receives a*
 25 *written recommendation from the First Responder*

1 *Network Authority for action upon a network rein-*
2 *vestment decision or task order with respect to the na-*
3 *tionwide public safety broadband network, the NTIA*
4 *shall take action upon such network reinvestment de-*
5 *cision or task order.”.*

6 *(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 6205(b)(2) of*
7 *the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012*
8 *(47 U.S.C. 1425(b)(2)) is amended by striking “If” and in-*
9 *serting “Subject to section 6206(d), if”.*

10 *(c) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this*
11 *section shall apply with respect to—*

12 *(1) except as provided in paragraph (2) of this*
13 *subsection, actions taken by the First Responder Net-*
14 *work Authority on or after the date of the enactment*
15 *of this Act; and*

16 *(2) in the case of paragraph (2) of section*
17 *6208(d) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Cre-*
18 *ation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1428(d)), as added by*
19 *this section, written recommendations received by the*
20 *National Telecommunications and Information Ad-*
21 *ministration on or after the date of the enactment of*
22 *this Act.*

1 **SEC. 4. BOARD OF FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHOR-**
 2 **ITY.**

3 (a) *PUBLIC SAFETY PROFESSIONALS.*—Section
 4 6204(b)(2)(A) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Cre-
 5 ation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1424(b)(2)(A)) is amended
 6 by amending clause (iv) to read as follows:

7 “(iv) ensure that, on and after the date
 8 that is 3 years after the date of the enact-
 9 ment of the First Responder Network Au-
 10 thority Reauthorization Act of 2026, the
 11 Board includes not fewer than 5 individuals
 12 serving as State, local, or Tribal public
 13 safety professionals in the fields of fire re-
 14 sponse services, emergency medical services,
 15 emergency management services, law en-
 16 forcement, or 9–1–1 services.”.

17 (b) *STAGGERED TERMS.*—

18 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Section 6204(c)(2) of the Mid-
 19 dle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012
 20 (47 U.S.C. 1424(c)(2)) is amended—

21 (A) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking “3
 22 years” and inserting “not more than 3 years”;
 23 and

24 (B) by amending subparagraph (D) to read
 25 as follows:

1 “(D) *STAGGERED TERMS*.—*In making ap-*
 2 *pointments under subsection (b)(1)(D), the Sec-*
 3 *retary of Commerce shall ensure that the terms*
 4 *of office of individuals so appointed are stag-*
 5 *gered, as the Secretary considers appropriate to*
 6 *reduce the likelihood that the terms of office of*
 7 *more than 4 such individuals will expire at the*
 8 *same time.*”.

9 (2) *APPLICABILITY*.—*The amendments made by*
 10 *this subsection shall apply with respect to appoint-*
 11 *ments made on or after the date of the enactment of*
 12 *this Act.*

13 **SEC. 5. ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR.**

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

17 “(h) *ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR*.—

18 “(1) *IN GENERAL*.—*The First Responder Net-*
 19 *work Authority shall have an Associate Adminis-*
 20 *trator, who shall be a career appointee (as defined in*
 21 *section 3132(a) of title 5, United States Code) in the*
 22 *Senior Executive Service and who shall be appointed*
 23 *by the Assistant Secretary from among 3 individuals*
 24 *nominated by the Board. The Assistant Secretary*
 25 *shall make such appointment under the merit proce-*

1 dures applicable to appointing such career appointees
2 under subchapter II of chapter 31 of such title 5.

3 “(2) *DUTIES.*—*The Associate Administrator*
4 *shall do the following:*

5 “(A) *Subject to the direction of the Board*
6 *and approval by the Assistant Secretary under*
7 *section 6206(d), manage the staff and operations*
8 *of the First Responder Network Authority in*
9 *order to ensure that the duties and responsibil-*
10 *ities of the First Responder Network Authority*
11 *are carried out.*

12 “(B) *Serve as a liaison between the Board*
13 *and the Assistant Secretary, including with re-*
14 *spect to ensuring compliance by the First Re-*
15 *sponder Network Authority with section 6206(d).*

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

21 “(b) *CONTINUATION IN OFFICE.*—*The individual serv-*
22 *ing as the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer*
23 *of the First Responder Network Authority on the day before*
24 *the date of the enactment of this Act may serve as the Asso-*
25 *ciate Administrator under subsection (h) of section 6204 of*

1 *the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012*
 2 *(47 U.S.C. 1424), as added by subsection (a), on and after*
 3 *such date of enactment without the need for appointment*
 4 *under such subsection (h).*

5 **SEC. 6. COMPONENTS OF NATIONWIDE PUBLIC SAFETY**
 6 **BROADBAND NETWORK.**

7 *Section 6202(b) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and*
 8 *Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1422(b)) is amended,*
 9 *in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “and*
 10 *initially consists of” and inserting “and consists of such*
 11 *technologies and services as necessary to enable secure,*
 12 *interoperable, resilient, and prioritized broadband commu-*
 13 *nications for public safety entities, including”.*

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

15 *Section 6208(b) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and*
 16 *Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1428(b)) is amended—*
 17 *(1) by inserting “(or other period specified by*
 18 *the First Responder Network Authority)” after “for*
 19 *each fiscal year”; and*
 20 *(2) by striking “the fiscal year involved” and in-*
 21 *serting “such fiscal year (or other period)”.*

22 **SEC. 8. REPORTS TO CONGRESS ON FIRST RESPONDER**
 23 **NETWORK AUTHORITY.**

24 *(a) ADDITIONAL MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED IN FIRST*
 25 *RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY AUDIT REPORT.—Sec-*

tion 6209(b)(2) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1429(b)(2)) is amended—

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

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

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) an evaluation of the performance of the FirstNet contractor under the contract in building, operating, and maintaining the nationwide public safety broadband network.”.

(b) ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Subtitle B of title VI of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 6214. ANNUAL REPORTS ON FIRST RESPONDER NETWORK AUTHORITY.

“(a) REPORT ON NETWORK MATTERS.—The NTIA shall submit to Congress an annual report that includes information on cyberattacks, cyber defense efforts, and unscheduled service outages of all causes with respect to the nationwide public safety broadband network. Each such annual report—

6 “(b) *REPORT ON ADOPTION RATES.*—The NTIA shall
7 submit to Congress an annual report on adoption rates, by
8 profession and geographic area, with respect to the nation-
9 wide public safety broadband network that, at the request
10 of the Board, shall include a statement from the Board with
11 respect to such adoption rates.”.

17 ***“SEC. 6215. ANNUAL BRIEFINGS ON FIRST RESPONDER NET-***
18 ***WORK AUTHORITY.***

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1 *ticipation of the Chair of the Board (or a designee there-*
 2 *of).”.*

3 **SEC. 9. BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND DISASTER RECOVERY**
 4 **PLAN.**

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

9 **“SEC. 6216. BUSINESS CONTINUITY AND DISASTER RECOV-**
 10 **ERY PLAN.**

11 *“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the*
 12 *date of the enactment of this section, and every 5 years*
 13 *thereafter, the FirstNet contractor shall submit to the NTIA*
 14 *for approval, and to the Board for review, a business con-*
 15 *tinuity and disaster recovery plan to ensure rapid restora-*
 16 *tion of the nationwide public safety broadband network fol-*
 17 *lowing an outage resulting from a natural disaster or other*
 18 *emergency.*

19 *“(b) TIMING OF APPROVAL OR REQUEST FOR RESUB-*
 20 *MISSION.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which*
 21 *the NTIA receives a plan submitted under this section, the*
 22 *NTIA, in consultation with the Board, shall—*

23 *“(1) approve such plan; or*

24 *“(2) provide to the FirstNet contractor a written*
 25 *notice of—*

1 “(A) the reasoning for not approving such
2 plan; and

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

6 **SEC. 10. OUTAGE NOTIFICATIONS.**

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.), as*
9 *amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further*
10 *amended by adding at the end the following:*

11 **“SEC. 6217. OUTAGE NOTIFICATIONS.**

12 *“In the case of any unscheduled service outage with*
13 *respect to the nationwide public safety broadband net-*
14 *work—*

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

20 *“(2) the FirstNet contractor shall provide to the*
21 *departments and agencies that use such network a*
22 *network status tool that provides timely information*
23 *on such outage.”.*

1 **SEC. 11. SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS OF FIRSTNET CON-**
2 **TRACT.**

3 *Subtitle B of title VI of the Middle Class Tax Relief*
4 *and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C. 1421 et seq.), as*
5 *amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further*
6 *amended by adding at the end the following:*

7 **“SEC. 6218. SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS OF FIRSTNET CON-**
8 **TRACT.**

9 *“Not later than 7 days after receiving a request, in*
10 *writing, from the Chair and Ranking Member of the Com-*
11 *mittee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Represent-*
12 *atives, or from the Chair and Ranking Member of the Com-*
13 *mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the*
14 *Senate, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to such Com-*
15 *mittee any contract between the First Responder Network*
16 *Authority and the FirstNet contractor with respect to build-*
17 *ing, operating, or maintaining the nationwide public safety*
18 *broadband network.”.*

19 **SEC. 12. DEFINITIONS.**

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

22 *(1) by redesignating paragraphs (15) through*
23 *(33) as paragraphs (16) through (34), respectively;*
24 *and*

25 *(2) by inserting after paragraph (14) the fol-*
26 *lowing:*

1 “(15) *FIRSTNET CONTRACTOR.*—*The term*
2 *‘FirstNet contractor’ means the entity that, under*
3 *contract with the First Responder Network Authority,*
4 *builds, operates, and maintains the nationwide public*
5 *safety broadband network.’.*”

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