

CA CAPITOL — TO — CAPITOL DC

PUBLIC SAFETY

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EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES & FIRST RESPONDER SAFETY

Business Nexus

Businesses benefit when communities are vibrant, healthy, and safe. Ensuring the safety of our region's business owners, residents and visitors is a top priority for Public Safety agencies across our multi-county area. Developing policies and federal programs to strengthen emerging technologies that improve first responder safety, allow public safety employees to better serve its citizens.

Requested Action

The Public Safety Team – a coalition of first responders, elected officials, business leaders, and community members – requests Congress fund programs that support emerging public safety technology, as well as support policies that improve first responder safety, including:

- Advocate for funding related to improving emergency communication services for our communities and public safety agencies.
- Support legislation that allows for enforcement of airspace violations committed while operating drones.
- Support public safety exceptions to airspace regulations when they improve public safety.
- Support workforce development and technological advancements made possible due to the CHIPS and Science Act.

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Brief Background

The Public Safety Team strongly supports the following policies, funding, and advancements in technology to further public safety and first responder efforts to better serve the Sacramento region:

Senate Bill (S.4687): The 117th Congress's proposed Senate Bill (S.4687) is called the Safeguarding the Homeland from the Threats Posed by Unmanned Aircraft Systems Act. This bi-partisan co-sponsored legislation would responsibly help the law catch up with technology and support State, Local, Territorial, and Tribal (SLTT) law enforcement agencies to locate both dangerous and nefarious operators. We are urging that the bill be reintroduced for the 118th Congress.

In addition to the support of the Safeguarding the Homeland from the Threats Posed by Unmanned Aircraft Systems Act, we would ask Congress to provide the authority for State, Local, Territorial, and Tribal (SLTT) law enforcement agencies to take regulatory action in the form of state law or local ordinance over UAS operating illegally within the National Airspace and below 40 feet above ground level (violations of CFR14 Part 107). The FAA has jurisdiction over the National Airspace and current state and local agencies are unable to enforce violations of this section. This change would assist in local law enforcement being able to control airspace during emergencies, leading to a safer and more efficient deployment of resources.

Next Generation 911 (NG911): NG911 modernizes 911 infrastructure to accommodate how most people communicate in today's world – through digital and mobile devices. This modernization upgrades technology from a telephone-based 911 service to a system that allows improved internet protocol (IP)-based communication between the public and emergency first responders. NG911 enables dispatchers to receive 911 calls, text messages, and other digital data from mobile devices and sensors, and provides faster, more reliable caller location information. According to the FCC's Task Force on Optimal Public Safety Answering Point Architecture (TFOPA), NG911 can be defined as a system comprising hardware, software, data, and operational policies and procedures briefly described below:

- Provide standardized interfaces from call and message services.
- Process all types of emergency calls including non-voice (multi-media) messages.
- Acquire and integrate additional data useful to call routing and handling.
- Deliver the calls and messages and their data to the appropriate Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) / communications center and other appropriate emergency entities.
- Support data and communications needs for coordinated incident response and management.
- Provide a secure environment for emergency communications.

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CHIPS and Science Act of 2022: This Act would make historic investments that will poise U.S. workers, communities, and businesses to win the race for the 21st century. It will strengthen American manufacturing, supply chains, and national security, and invest in research and development, science and technology, and the workforce of the future to keep the United States the leader in the industries of tomorrow, including nanotechnology, clean energy, quantum computing, and artificial intelligence. The CHIPS and Science Act not only makes the smart investments so that Americans can compete in and win the future, but it also helps to address supply chain issues and increasing prices for technology necessary to public safety advancements.

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