



# **H.R. 3630: Congress Enacts Legislation to Build a Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network**

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# Public Safety Alliance

- The Public Safety Alliance is a partnership with the nation's leading public safety associations:
  - Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International
  - International Association of Chiefs of Police
  - International Association of Fire Chiefs
  - National Sheriffs' Association
  - Major Cities Chiefs Association
  - Major County Sheriffs' Association
  - Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association
  - National Emergency Management Association
  - National Association of EMS Officials



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Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials International  
National Emergency Management Association | National Association of State EMS Officials

# The PSA's 3 Core Principles

- **Spectrum** – Reallocation of the D Block to public safety
- **Funding** – Provide sufficient funding to build the network
- **Governance** – Provide a governance framework that allows for significant input by public safety, state, local and tribal governments

# H.R. 3630 Title VI

- Passed Congress on February 17, 2012
- Signed in to law by President Obama on February 22, 2012
- Quick Summary...
  - Requires FCC to allocate the D Block spectrum to public safety
  - Establishes the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) to govern the PSBN
  - Provides \$7 billion in funding to build out the nationwide public safety broadband network
  - Provides \$135 million for State and Local Implantation Grants (20% match)
  - Provides up to \$300 million for research and development grants
  - Provide \$115 million for 9-1-1 and NG 9-1-1 grants.

# Allocation of the D Block

- A single license for the D Block spectrum and public safety broadband spectrum (a total of 20 MHz) will be issued to the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)

# Technical Advisory Board for First Responder Interoperability

## Interoperability Requirements

# Public Safety Interoperability Board

## Technical Advisory Board for First Responder Interoperability

- 30 days to appoint 14 voting & 1 non voting members
- Within 90 days, and in consultation with NTIA, NIST and DHS/OEC, Board will submit to FCC the minimum technical requirements to ensure nationwide level of interoperability for PSBN.
- FCC has 30 days to approve the recommendations with any revisions they deem necessary and submit them to the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)
- Board authority terminates 15 days after recommendations transmitted to FirstNet

# FirstNet

First Responder Network Authority  
(Governance of the PSBN)



# FirstNet

- Board of Directors
  - 15 Member Board of Directors
    - 3 Federal Members (DHS, DOJ, and OMB)
    - 3 State, Local, tribal and territories
    - 3 Who have been Public Safety Professionals
    - 6 Other (1 technical, expertise, 1 network expertise and 1 Financial expertise)
  - Secretary of Commerce will make the appointments for non-Federal members
  - Term of appointments are for 3 years
  - Secretary of Commerce will select Chair from the 12 non-Federal members of the Board

# FirstNet

- Duties and Responsibilities
  - ensure nationwide standards for use and access to the networks
  - issue open, transparent, and competitive request for proposals (RFP) to private sector entities
  - encourage RFPs to leverage existing commercial wireless infrastructure to speed deployment of the networks
  - manage the implantation and execution of contracts or agreements with non-Federal entities to build, operate and maintain the network
  - ensure the safety, security, and resiliency of the network including requirements for protecting and monitoring network to protect against cyberattacks

# FirstNet

- promote competition in the equipment market
- require equipment on the network to
  - be built to open, non-proprietary, commercial available standards
  - capable of being used by any public safety entity and multiple vendors across all PSBNs
  - backwards-compatible with existing commercial networks to the extent that such capabilities are necessary and technically and economically reasonable
- require deployment phases with substantial rural coverage milestones as part of each phase of the construction and deployment of the network

# Funding

Allocation of funds

# Funding

- \$7 billion will be deposited into the Public Safety Trust Fund to be used to build out the nationwide PSBN
- NTIA can borrow up to \$2 billion before the auctions
- NTIA will also establish a \$135 million State and Local Implantation Fund
  - Grant program is to assist State, regional, tribal, and local jurisdictions to identify, plan, and implement the most efficient and effective way to utilize and integrate the infrastructure, equipment, and other architecture associated with the nationwide PSBN

# State and Local

Responsibilities and Options

# RFPs

- FirstNet must provide Governor of each State a notice of completion of the RFP process
- Notice shall include
  - details of the proposed plan for build out of the nationwide PSBN in the State
  - funding level for the State as determined by NTIA
- State has 90 days to choose whether to participate in the deployment of the PSBN or conduct its own deployment of the radio access network (RAN) in the State
- If State chooses to deploy the RAN
  - The State then has 180 days of the date of notice to develop and complete an RFP for the construction, maintenance, and operation of the radio access network (RAN) within the State and submit it to the Commission for approval
  - The state must contribute a 20% match

# Research and Development

Advanced Wireless Public Safety  
Communications Technology



# R & D for PSC Technology

- NIST shall conduct research and assist with the development of standards, technologies, and applications to advance wireless public safety communications
- Initial funding is \$100 million plus an additional \$200 million if the auction exceeds \$27.6 billion.
- The funding will be used to:
  - document technical requirements for public safety wireless communications
  - accelerate the development of the capabilities for communications between currently deployed public safety narrowband systems and the PSBN

# R & D for PSC Technology

- establish a research plan and direct research, that addresses the wireless communications needs of public safety entities beyond what can be provided by current generation of broadband technology
- accelerate the development of mission critical voice, including device-to-device “talkaround” capability over broadband networks, public safety prioritization, authentication capabilities, and standard application programming interfaces for the PSBN
- accelerate the development of communications technology and equipment that can facilitate the eventual migration of public safety narrowband communications to the PSBN
- convene working groups of relevant government and commercial parties to achieve the requirement in this section

# 9-1-1 Grant Program

- Establishes a \$115 million grant program within NTIA
  - The funding will only become available if all the spectrum auction proceeds exceeds \$27.6 billion
  - It could take up to 10 years to auction all the spectrum identified in the legislation
- Grants can be used for...
  - implantation and operation of 9-1-1, E 9-1-1 and migration to IP-enabled emergency network, and adoption and operation of NG 9-1-1 services and applications
  - implementation of IP-enable emergency services and application enabled by NG 9-1-1 services, including the establishment of IP backbone networks and the application layer software infrastructure needed to interconnect the multitude of emergency response organization
  - training public safety personnel, including call takers, first responders, and other individuals and organizations who are part of the emergency response chain in 9-1-1 service
- The Federal cost share of the grant program shall not exceed 60 percent of the eligible cost for the project

# Who can use the network?

- Public safety broadband network is to support public safety services.
- Public safety services has the meaning as define in Section 337 of the Communications Act of 1934 and The Homeland Security Act of 2002.

- Sec 337 say....

- The sole or principal purpose of which is to protect the safety of life, health, or property that are provided by State or local government entities; or by nongovernmental organizations that are authorized by a governmental entity whose primary mission is the provision of such services; and that are not made commercially available to the public by the provider

- The Homeland Security Act says...

- The term “emergency response providers” includes Federal, State, and local emergency public safety, law enforcement, emergency response, emergency medical (including hospital emergency facilities), and related personnel, agencies, and authorities.

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