

IACP



NEWS

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POLICE CHIEFS SUPPORT PUBLIC SAFETY SPECTRUM AND WIRELESS INNOVATION ACT
*Legislation would preserve ability to establish a
national, interoperable broadband public safety network*

Alexandria, VA --The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) today joins the Public Safety Alliance in announcing its strong support for the *Public Safety Spectrum and Wireless Innovation Act*. This legislation, to be introduced by Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV), would provide law enforcement and other public safety agencies with an additional 10 megahertz of spectrum that is necessary to support a national, interoperable, wireless broadband network that will help them fulfill their mission of protecting lives in communities throughout the United States.

“This legislation is absolutely essential to public safety,” stated Mark Marshall, IACP President and Chief of the Smithfield, VA, Police Department. “Sen. Rockefeller’s bill begins to deliver the baseline foundation of sufficient radio spectrum and federal funding so that our nation can finally realize a nationwide, interoperable and mission-critical grade public safety broadband network.”

Today’s action follows steps taken last Congressional session by Representative Peter King (R-NY) and Representative Yvette Clarke (D-NY) who introduced the *Broadband for First Responders Act of 2010*; and Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) and Sen. Joseph Lieberman (I-CT) who introduced the *First Responders Protection Act of 2010*. The IACP looks forward to working with Sen. Rockefeller and other members of Congress on legislation critical to our nation’s public safety community.

The IACP urges Congress to act quickly on this critical public safety bill. Law enforcement and public safety must have a minimum of 20 MHz of broadband spectrum to meet current and future needs and must have access to new technologies to perform increasingly complex duties. These technologies must have adequate and dedicated spectrum that is managed and controlled by public safety to ensure that they will be more secure and reliable than commercial systems. The D-Block allocation is essential if we are to meet the critical needs of our nation’s law enforcement and public safety community.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police is the world’s oldest and largest association of law enforcement executives. Founded in 1893, the IACP has more than 20,000 members in over 100 countries.

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