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NACo supports public safety broadband bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The National Association of Counties (NACo) today voiced its strong backing of bipartisan legislation which would support critical national public safety communications needs by reallocating the D block spectrum for public safety.

NACo and other members of the “Big Seven” public interest groups representing different levels of government along with the Public Safety Alliance are urging all members of Congress to support The Public Safety and Wireless Innovation Act of 2011, introduced Jan. 25 by Sen. John Rockefeller (D-W.Va.). The bill would be a critical step toward realization of a nationwide, interoperable public safety broadband network.

“It’s critical that counties and all public safety agencies have maximum communications flexibility to respond effectively to emergencies and disasters,” said NACo Executive Director Larry E. Naake. “NACo has long supported sufficient wireless spectrum to be dedicated to public safety uses and on a sufficient scale to allow for national interoperable response.”

For information about NACo’s support of reallocating the D block spectrum, contact Jeff Arnold at 202.942.4286 or jarnold@naco.org. For information on the Public Safety Alliance, visit http://psafirst.org.

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*The National Association of Counties (NACo) is the only national organization that represents county governments in the United States. Founded in 1935, NACo provides essential services to the nation’s 3,068 counties. NACo advances issues with a unified voice before the federal government, improves the public’s understanding of county government, assists counties in finding and sharing innovative solutions through education and research, and provides value-added services to save counties and taxpayers money. For more information about NACo, visit www.naco.org.*