

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION FUNDING THE NATIONWIDE TRANSITION TO NEXT
GENERATION 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1)**

Offered by:
International Association of Fire Chiefs

Whereas, public safety professionals handle over 240 million emergency 9-1-1 calls per year. Our 9-1-1 system is the most critical of critical infrastructure – relied upon nationwide every day to obtain assistance in a variety of life-or-death situations; and

Whereas, 9-1-1 infrastructure has changed little since 9-1-1 was launched over 50 years ago. 9-1-1 is prone to outages and cybersecurity attacks and is mostly limited to voice calls and some basic texting capabilities; and

Whereas, first responders cannot match the technological capabilities of the public. While the public can send photos and videos to each other, they cannot do so directly to 9-1-1; and

Whereas, the transition to NG9-1-1 will make emergency responses faster and more efficient and make public safety professionals and the communities they serve safer; and

Whereas, cyberthreats are outpacing our public safety agencies' defenses, placing the entire emergency communications chain at risk. Because 9-1-1 centers are central to emergency communications, as we have unfortunately already witnessed, a cyberattack on a 9-1-1 center can also impair communications with multiple disciplines of public safety professionals; and

Whereas, the transition to NG9-1-1 will also advance national security by enhancing response to disasters and national-level threats and supporting national defense efforts; and

Whereas, every day without action on this national priority represents an opportunity missed for public safety and potential lives lost; and

Therefore, it is resolved that the Congressional Fire Services Institute supports federal legislation to fund the nationwide transition to NG9-1-1 which will provide better response to emergency incidents and save more lives.