

107<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. 2746

To establish a Federal Liaison on Homeland Security in each State, to provide coordination between the Department of Homeland Security and State and local first responders, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 17, 2002

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Ms. COLLINS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs

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## A BILL

To establish a Federal Liaison on Homeland Security in each State, to provide coordination between the Department of Homeland Security and State and local first responders, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “First Responders Sup-  
5       port Act of 2002”.

6       **SEC. 2. HOMELAND SECURITY LIAISON OFFICERS.**

7       (a) CHIEF HOMELAND SECURITY LIAISON OFFI-

8       CER.—

1           (1) APPOINTMENT.—The Secretary of Home-  
2 land Security shall appoint a Chief Homeland Secu-  
3 rity Liaison Officer to coordinate the activities of the  
4 Homeland Security Liaison Officers, designated  
5 under subsection (b).

6           (2) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Chief Homeland  
7 Security Liaison Officer shall prepare an annual re-  
8 port, that contains—

9           (A) a description of the State and local  
10 priorities in each of the 50 States based on dis-  
11 covered needs of first responder organizations,  
12 including law enforcement agencies, fire and  
13 rescue agencies, medical providers, emergency  
14 service providers, and relief agencies;

15           (B) a needs assessment that identifies  
16 homeland security functions in which the Fed-  
17 eral role is duplicative of the State or local role,  
18 and recommendations to decrease or eliminate  
19 inefficiencies between the Federal Government  
20 and State and local entities;

21           (C) recommendations to Congress regard-  
22 ing the creation, expansion, or elimination of  
23 any program to assist State and local entities to  
24 carry out their respective functions under the  
25 Department of Homeland Security; and

1 (D) proposals to increase the coordination  
2 of Department of Homeland Security priorities  
3 within each State and between the States.

4 (b) HOMELAND SECURITY LIAISON OFFICERS.—

5 (1) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary of Home-  
6 land Security shall designate in each State not less  
7 than 1 employee of the Department of Homeland  
8 Security to—

9 (A) serve as the Homeland Security Liai-  
10 son Officer in that State; and

11 (B) provide coordination between the De-  
12 partment of Homeland Security and State and  
13 local first responders, including—

14 (i) law enforcement agencies;

15 (ii) fire and rescue agencies;

16 (iii) medical providers;

17 (iv) emergency service providers; and

18 (v) relief agencies.

19 (2) DUTIES.—Each Homeland Security Liaison  
20 Officer designated under paragraph (1) shall—

21 (A) ensure coordination between the De-  
22 partment of Homeland Security and—

23 (i) State, local, and community-based  
24 law enforcement;

25 (ii) fire and rescue agencies; and

1 (iii) medical and emergency relief or-  
2 ganizations;

3 (B) identify State and local areas requiring  
4 additional information, training, resources, and  
5 security;

6 (C) provide training, information, and edu-  
7 cation regarding homeland security for State  
8 and local entities;

9 (D) identify homeland security functions in  
10 which the Federal role is duplicative of the  
11 State or local role, and recommend ways to de-  
12 crease or eliminate inefficiencies;

13 (E) assist State and local entities in pri-  
14 ority setting based on discovered needs of first  
15 responder organizations, including law enforce-  
16 ment agencies, fire and rescue agencies, medical  
17 providers, emergency service providers, and re-  
18 lief agencies;

19 (F) assist the Department of Homeland  
20 Security to identify and implement State and  
21 local homeland security objectives in an efficient  
22 and productive manner; and

23 (G) serve as a liaison to the Department of  
24 Homeland Security in representing State and

1 local priorities and concerns regarding home-  
2 land security.

3 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON FIRST RE-**  
4 **SPONDERS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is established an Inter-  
6 agency Committee on First Responders, that shall—

7 (1) ensure coordination among the Federal  
8 agencies involved with—

9 (A) State, local, and community-based law  
10 enforcement;

11 (B) fire and rescue operations; and

12 (C) medical and emergency relief services;

13 (2) identify community-based law enforcement,  
14 fire and rescue, and medical and emergency relief  
15 services needs;

16 (3) recommend new or expanded grant pro-  
17 grams to improve community-based law enforcement,  
18 fire and rescue, and medical and emergency relief  
19 services;

20 (4) identify ways to streamline the process  
21 through which Federal agencies support community-  
22 based law enforcement, fire and rescue, and medical  
23 and emergency relief services; and

24 (5) assist in priority setting based on discovered  
25 needs.

1 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Interagency Committee on  
2 First Responders shall be composed of—

3 (1) the Chief Homeland Security Liaison Offi-  
4 cer of the Department of Homeland Security;

5 (2) a representative of the Health Resources  
6 and Services Administration of the Department of  
7 Health and Human Services;

8 (3) a representative of the Centers for Disease  
9 Control and Prevention of the Department of Health  
10 and Human Services;

11 (4) a representative of the Federal Emergency  
12 Management Agency of the Department of Home-  
13 land Security;

14 (5) a representative of the United States Coast  
15 Guard of the Department of Homeland Security;

16 (6) a representative of the Department of De-  
17 fense;

18 (7) a representative of the Office of Domestic  
19 Preparedness of the Department of Homeland Secu-  
20 rity;

21 (8) a representative of the Immigration and  
22 Naturalization Service of the Department of Home-  
23 land Security;

1           (9) a representative of the Transportation Secu-  
2           rity Agency of the Department of Homeland Secu-  
3           rity;

4           (10) a representative of the Federal Bureau of  
5           Investigation of the Department of Justice; and

6           (11) representatives of any other Federal agen-  
7           cy identified by the President as having a significant  
8           role in the purposes of the Interagency Committee  
9           on First Responders.

10          (c) ADMINISTRATION.—The Department of Home-  
11          land Security shall provide administrative support to the  
12          Interagency Committee on First Responders and the Advi-  
13          sory Council, which shall include—

14                 (1) scheduling meetings;

15                 (2) preparing agenda;

16                 (3) maintaining minutes and records;

17                 (4) producing reports; and

18                 (5) reimbursing Advisory Council members.

19          (d) LEADERSHIP.—The members of the Interagency  
20          Committee on First Responders shall select annually a  
21          chairperson.

22          (e) MEETINGS.—The Interagency Committee on  
23          First Responders shall meet—

1           (1) at the call of the Chief Homeland Security  
2           Liaison Officer of the Department of Homeland Se-  
3           curity; or

4           (2) not less frequently than once every 3  
5           months.

6 **SEC. 4. ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR THE FEDERAL INTER-**  
7                                   **AGENCY COMMITTEE ON FIRST RESPOND-**  
8                                   **ERS.**

9           (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established an Advi-  
10          sory Council for the Federal Interagency Committee on  
11          First Responders (in this Act referred to as the “Advisory  
12          Council”).

13          (b) **MEMBERSHIP.**—

14               (1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Advisory Council shall  
15          be composed of not more than 13 members, selected  
16          by the Interagency Committee on First Responders.

17               (2) **REPRESENTATION.**—The Interagency Com-  
18          mittee on First Responders shall ensure that the  
19          membership of the Advisory Council represents—

20                               (A) the law enforcement community;

21                               (B) fire and rescue organizations;

22                               (C) medical and emergency relief services;

23                               and

24                               (D) both urban and rural communities.

1       (c) CHAIRPERSON.—The Advisory Council shall se-  
2 lect annually a chairperson from among its members.

3       (d) COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS.—The members of  
4 the Advisory Council shall serve without compensation,  
5 but shall be eligible for reimbursement of necessary ex-  
6 penses connected with their service to the Advisory Coun-  
7 cil.

8       (e) MEETINGS.—The Advisory Council shall meet  
9 with the Interagency Committee on First Responders not  
10 less frequently than once every 3 months.

11 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

12       There are authorized to be appropriated such funds  
13 as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this  
14 Act.

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