



September 15, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
The Capitol, Room H-232  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
The Capitol, Room H-204  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Thune  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
The Capitol, Room S-221  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
The Capitol, Room S-230  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Thune, Leader Jeffries, and Leader Schumer:

We are writing to express our strong support for the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act (H.R. 979/S. 315). As firefighters, law enforcement officers, and representatives of the emergency medical service, we rely upon the critical importance of reliable means of communications, particularly during emergencies and crises. Reliable means of communications help first responders save lives, as is the case with the important information citizens receive via AM radio.

AM radio continues to serve as a dependable means of communication, especially in situations where other forms of communication may be unavailable. As we have seen, regardless of whether it is a natural disaster, a severe accident, or a public safety threat, AM radio provides a lifeline for disseminating crucial information to the public and coordinating our emergency response efforts.

By ensuring the inclusion of AM radio receivers in all new vehicles, this legislation ensures that drivers and passengers have access to vital emergency broadcasts, including areas with limited or disrupted cellular or internet connectivity. Through the Integrated Public Alert and Warning

System (IPAWS), AM radio is one of the broadcast methods relied upon after a hurricane when cell service is unreliable. In fact, AM radio repeatedly proves a very reliable source of providing information to communities in times where other forms of communication may have been impacted.

A proven example of the usefulness of AM radio happened last year in North Carolina during the landfall of Hurricane Helene. There, AM radio operators stayed on the air to ensure their listeners and community stayed informed as the event unfolded. AM radio provided crucial evacuation and shelter information to citizens when other public communications networks were inoperable.

We urge you to join us in advocating for this important legislation and to ensure its swift passage. Together, we can enhance public safety, improve emergency preparedness, and save lives.

Sincerely,

International Association of Fire Chiefs  
National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians  
National Volunteer Fire Council  
International Association of Chiefs of Police  
Major County Sheriffs of America  
International Association of Fire Fighters  
National Sheriffs' Association

cc:

The Honorable Brett Guthrie, Chair, House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
The Honorable Frank Pallone, Ranking Member, House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
The Honorable Ted Cruz, Chairman, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation  
The Honorable Maria Cantwell, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation  
The Honorable Rand Paul, Chairman, Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs  
The Honorable Gary Peters, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs  
The Honorable Andrew Garbarino, Chairman, House Committee on Homeland Security  
The Honorable Bennie Thompson, Ranking Member, House Committee on Homeland Security  
The Honorable Sam Graves, Chairman, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
The Honorable Rick Larsen, Ranking Member, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

:sa