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NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
OF TOWNS
AND TOWNSHIPS

NATaT 118th Legislative Tracker

Last Updated: September 12, 2023

The following legislative tracker provides the status of legislation introduced in the 118th Congress of interest to the National Association of Towns and Townships.

Transportation Bills (3)

Bill Number: H.R. 471	Last Action: 02/01/2023 - Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit.	Status: Introduced	Position: Oppose
Companion Bill:			
Title: SHIP IT Act Safer Highways and Increased Performance for Interstate Trucking Act	Bill Summary: To amend title 23, United States Code, with respect to commercial motor vehicle parking, safety, and licensing, and for other purposes.		
Primary Sponsors:	Introduction Date:		

Dusty Johnson (R-SD-At-Large)	01/24/2023
<p>Organizational Notes:</p> <p>Press Releases</p> <p>Cosponsors</p> <p>NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. John Moolenaar (R-MI-2), Rep. Dean Phillips (D-MN-3), Rep. Betty McCollum, (D-MN- 4), and Rep. Dwight Evans (D-PA-3)</p> <p>Bill would allow heavier trucks on the roads during emergencies allowing workers to respond to disease and supply chain emergencies.</p>	

Bill Number: H.R. 3002	Last Action: 05/01/2023 - Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Title: Rebuilding Rural Roads Act	Bill Summary: To amend title 23, United States Code, to reduce the population definition of rural area to 20,000 to restrict eligibility to be considered under the rural surface transportation grant program.		
Primary Sponsors: Brad Finstad (R-MN-1)	Introduction Date: 04/28/2023		
<p>Organizational Notes:</p> <p>Press Releases</p> <p>Cosponsors</p> <p>NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. Pete Stauber (R-MN-8), Rep. Bill Johnson (R-OH-6)</p> <p>Bill changes the definition of “rural” under the Rural Surface Transportation Grant Program to 20,000 in population or less, giving rural communities greater opportunity to secure infrastructure investments.</p>			

Bill Number: H.R. 5437	Last Action: 09/13/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Title: Protecting Infrastructure Investments for Rural America Act	Bill Summary: To ensure the rural surface transportation grant program is accessible to rural areas, and for other purposes.		
Primary Sponsors: Brad Finstad (R-MN-1)	Introduction Date: 09/13/2023		
Organizational Notes: Press Releases Cosponsors NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. Pete Stauber (R-MN-8), Rep. Derrick Van Orden (R-WI-3) The bill lowers the definition of “rural area” from 200,000 in population to 20,000 to be in line with definitions used by the Small Business Administration and the USDA Office of Rural Development, giving rural communities greater opportunity to secure infrastructure investments.			

Telecommunications and Cybersecurity Bills (7)

Bill Number: H.R. 907	Last Action: 02/17/2023 - Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Companion Bill: S. 340			
Title: Protecting Community	Bill Summary: To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to modify the		

Television Act	definition of franchise fee, and for other purposes.
Primary Sponsors: Anna Eshoo (D-CA-16)	Introduction Date: 02/09/2023
Organizational Notes: Press Release Cosponsors NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. Dean Phillips (D-MN-3), Rep. Betty McCollum, (D-MN- 4), Rep. Ilhan Omar (D-MN-5), Rep. Elissa Slotkin (D-MI-7), and Rep. Dwight Evans (D-PA-3) A 2019 FCC rule allows cable companies to reduce their franchise fee payments by the fair market value of their non-monetary in-kind contributions (e.g., institutional networks; value of public, educational and government (PEG) channel capacity). The bill would undo this rule by clarifying that franchise fees include only monetary assessments, not in-kind contributions.	

Bill Number: S. 340	Last Action: 02/09/2023 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Companion Bill: H.R. 907			
Title: Protecting Community Television Act	Bill Summary: A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to modify the definition of franchise fee, and for other purposes.		
Primary Sponsors: Edward Markey (D-MA)	Introduction Date: 02/09/2023		
Organizational Notes: Press Release Cosponsors			

NATaT-member cosponsors: Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Sen. Tina Smith (D-MN), Sen. Charles Schumer (D-NY), Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)

A 2019 FCC rule allows cable companies to reduce their franchise fee payments by the fair market value of their non-monetary in-kind contributions (e.g., institutional networks; value of public, educational and government (PEG) channel capacity). The bill would undo this rule by clarifying that franchise fees include only monetary assessments, not in-kind contributions.

Bill Number: H.R. 1241	Last Action: 03/10/2023 Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Title: Broadband Incentives for Communities Act	Bill Summary: To direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to establish a competitive grant program to assist local governments in providing efficient review and approval of zoning and permitting applications that facilitate the deployment of broadband infrastructure, and for other purposes.		
Primary Sponsors: Elizabeth Fletcher (D-TX-7)	Introduction Date: 02/28/2023		
Organizational Notes: Press Release Cosponsors NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA-1) The bill would create a grant program under the National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA) to give communities new resources to train and hire employees in the permitting departments, hire additional human resources, and purchase updated technology and equipment that would facilitate the permitting process to help speed the deployment of new broadband infrastructure.			

Bill Number: H.R. 1752	Last Action: 07/27/2023 Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 58 - 2.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Title: E-BRIDGE Act Eliminating Barriers to Rural Internet Development Grant Eligibility Act	Bill Summary: To amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to provide for a high-speed broadband deployment initiative.		
Primary Sponsors: Sam Graves (R-MO-6)	Introduction Date: 03/23/2023		
Organizational Notes: Press Release Cosponsors NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. Marcus J. Molinaro (R-NY-19) Bill would eliminate hurdles for broadband projects under EDA grants and ensure that local communities can partner with the private sector, and gives communities more flexibility in complying with local match requirements.			

Bill Number: H.R. 1784	Last Action: 03/24/2023 - Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Title: Next Generation 9-1-1 Act of 2023	Bill Summary: To amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to provide for further deployment and coordination of Next Generation 9-1-1, and for other purposes.		
Primary Sponsors:	Introduction Date: 03/24/2023		

Richard Hudson (R-NC-9)	
Anna Eshoo (D- CA-16)	
<p>Organizational Notes:</p> <p>Press Release</p> <p>Cosponsors</p> <p>NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA-1)</p> <p>Bill would authorize \$15 billion to help state and local governments deploy next-generation 9-1-1 systems.</p>	

<p>Bill Number:</p> <p>H.R. 1812</p> <p>Companion Bill:</p> <p>S. 975</p>	<p>Last Action:</p> <p>03/27/2023 - Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.</p>	<p>Status:</p> <p>Introduced</p>	<p>Position:</p> <p>Support</p>
<p>Title:</p> <p>Reforming Broadband Connectivity Act of 2023</p>	<p>Bill Summary:</p> <p>To require the Federal Communications Commission to reform the contribution system of the Universal Service Fund, and for other purposes.</p>		
<p>Primary Sponsors:</p> <p>Joseph Neguse (D-CO-2)</p>	<p>Introduction Date:</p> <p>03/27/2023</p>		
<p>Organizational Notes:</p> <p>Press Release</p> <p>Cosponsors</p> <p>NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. Glenn Grothman (R-WI-6), Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-WI-8), Rep. Angie Craig (D-MN-2), Mark Pocan (D-WI-2), Rep. Scott Fitzgerald (R-WI-5)</p> <p>The bill would direct the FCC to initiate a rulemaking process to reform the contributions mechanism that funds the Universal Service Fund (USF). The contributions base is dramatically declining as customers migrate from traditional telecommunications service to broadband and</p>			

other services that contribute at lower rates or not at all.

Bill Number: S. 975	Last Action: 03/27/2023 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Companion Bill: H.R.1812			
Title: Reforming Broadband Connectivity Act of 2023	Bill Summary: A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to reform the contribution system of the Universal Service Fund, and for other purposes.		
Primary Sponsors: Amy Klobuchar (D-MN)	Introduction Date: 03/27/2023		
Organizational Notes: Press Release Cosponsors NATaT-member cosponsors: N/A The bill would direct the FCC to initiate a rulemaking process to reform the contributions mechanism that funds the Universal Service Fund (USF). The contributions base is dramatically declining as customers migrate from traditional telecommunications services to broadband and other services that contribute at lower rates or not at all.			

Tax (2)

Bill Number:	Last Action: 03/28/2023 - Referred to the House Committee on Ways	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
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H.R. 1837	and Means.		
Title: Investing in Our Communities Act	Bill Summary: To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate advance refunding bonds.		
Primary Sponsors: David Kustoff (R-TN-8)	Introduction Date: 03/28/2023		
Organizational Notes: Press Release Cosponsors NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. Daniel T. Kildee (D-MI-8), Rep. Andrew R. Garbarino (R-NY-2), Rep. Claudia Tenney (R-NY-24), Rep. Brian Higgins (D-NY-26), Rep. Brian K. Fitzpatrick (R-PA-1), Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI-4) Bill would allow a community to refinance a tax-exempt municipal bond at a lower rate without losing the tax-exempt status.			

Bill Number: H.R. 3032	Last Action: 04/28/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Title: Volunteer Driver Tax Appreciation Act of 2023	Bill Summary: This bill increases the mileage rate for the charitable use of an automobile (14 cents per mile) to the standard business mileage rate (58.5 cents per mile in 2022).		
Primary Sponsors: Pete Stauber (R-MN-8)	Introduction Date: April 28, 2023		
Organizational Notes: Press Release			

[Cosponsors](#)

NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. Dean Phillips (D-MN-3), Rep. Michelle Fischbach (R-MN-7), Rep. Bryan Steil, (R-WI-1), and Rep. Annie Craig (D-MN-2)

General Government (4)

Bill Number: S. 94	Last Action: 01/26/2023 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Title: Investing in State Energy Act of 2023	Bill Summary: A bill to require certain information and financial assistance under the State energy program and the Weatherization Assistance Program to be distributed without undue delay to support State and local high-impact energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives, and for other purposes.		
Primary Sponsors: Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)	Introduction Date: 01/26/2023		
Organizational Notes: Press Releases Cosponsors NATaT-member cosponsors: N/A A bill to require certain information and financial assistance under the State energy program and the Weatherization Assistance Program to be distributed without undue delay to support State and local high-impact energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives and for other purposes.			

Bill Number:	Last Action:	Status:	Position:
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H.R. 1814 Companion Bill: S. 977	03/28/2023 - Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.	Introduced	Support
Title: Facilitating Investments Required for Emergency Services to All Towns in Our Nation (FIRE STATION) Act	Bill Summary: To provide grants for fire station construction through the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes.		
Primary Sponsors: Bill Pascrell (D-NJ-9)	Introduction Date: 03/27/2023		
Organizational Notes: Press Release Cosponsors NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA-1), Rep. Mike Bost (R-IL-12), Rep. Patrick Ryan (D-NY-18), Rep. Paul Tonko (D-NY-20) Bill would allocate \$750 million to build, renovate, and modernize fire stations and EMS facilities.			

Bill Number: S. 977 Companion Bill: H.R. 1814	Last Action: 03/27/2023 - Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Title: Facilitating Investments Required for Emergency Services To All Towns In Our Nation (FIRE STATION) Act	Bill Summary: A bill to provide grants for fire station construction through the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes.		

Primary Sponsors: Chris Van Hollen (D-MD)	Introduction Date: 03/27/2023
Organizational Notes: Press Releases Cosponsors NATaT-member cosponsors: Sen. Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH), and Sen. Robert P. Casey (D-PA) Bill would allocate \$750 million to build, renovate, and modernize fire stations and EMS facilities.	

Bill Number: S 2286	Last Action: Jul 26, 2023 - Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.	Status: Introduced	Position: National Association of Towns and Townships: Watch
Companion Bill:			
Title: Streamlining Federal Grants Act of 2023	Bill Summary: A bill to improve the effectiveness and performance of certain Federal financial assistance programs, and for other purposes.		
Primary Sponsors: Gary Peters (D-MI)	Introduction Date: Jul 12, 2023		
Organizational Notes: NATaT-member cosponsors: Sen. Gary Peters (D-MI) Press Release Cosponsors			

Volunteer First Responders (4)

Bill Number: HR 4646 Companion Bill: S 265	Last Action: Jul 14, 2023 - Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Title: SIREN Reauthorization Act Supporting and Improving Rural EMS Needs Reauthorization Act	Bill Summary: To reauthorize the rural emergency medical service training and equipment assistance program, and for other purposes.		
Primary Sponsors: Dave Joyce (R-OH-14)	Introduction Date: Jul 14, 2023		
Organizational Notes: Press Release Cosponsors NATaT-Member Cosponsors: Debbie Dingel (D-MI-6), Dean Phillips (D-MN-3), Kelly Armstrong (R-ND-At Large), Mike Carey (R-OH-15), and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA-1). Extends funding through fiscal year (FY) 2028 for SIREN Act grants to rural fire and EMS agencies nationwide. The funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) goes toward supporting rural EMS agencies in training and recruiting staff, conducting certification courses, and purchasing equipment.			

Bill Number: S 265 Companion Bill:	Last Action: Jul 26, 2023 - Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 173.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
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HR 4646			
Title: SIREN Reauthorization Act Supporting and Improving Rural EMS Needs Reauthorization Act	Bill Summary: A bill to reauthorize the rural emergency medical service training and equipment assistance program, and for other purposes.		
Primary Sponsors: Dick Durbin (D-IL)	Introduction Date: Feb 02, 2023		
Organizational Notes: NATaT-member cosponsors: N/A Press Release Cosponsors Extends funding through fiscal year (FY) 2028 for SIREN Act grants to rural fire and EMS agencies nationwide. The funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) goes toward supporting rural EMS agencies in training and recruiting staff, conducting certification courses, and purchasing equipment.			

Bill Number: H.R. 4787	Last Action: 07/20/2023 Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Companion Bill: S. 1988			
Title: Volunteer First Responder Housing Act	Bill Summary: This bill expands eligibility to qualified volunteer first responders for assistance under (1) the Department of Agriculture Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program, and (2) certain Department of Housing and Urban Development single-family property disposition		

	programs.
Primary Sponsors: Rep. Andrew Garbarino (R-NY-2)	Introduction Date: July 20, 2023
Organizational Notes: Press Release Cosponsors NATaT-Member Cosponsors: Elissa Slotkin (D-MI-7), Dan Kildee (D-MI-08), Mike Lawler (R-NY-17), and Claudia Tenney (R-NY-24), Rep. Beatty, Joyce (D-OH-3). Bill would allocate \$750 million to build, renovate, and modernize fire stations and EMS facilities.	

Bill Number: S. 2316	Last Action: 06/14/2023 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Companion Bill: H.R. 4787			
Title: Volunteer First Responder Housing Act	Bill Summary: This bill expands eligibility to qualified volunteer first responders for assistance under (1) the Department of Agriculture Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program, and (2) certain Department of Housing and Urban Development single-family property disposition programs.		
Primary Sponsors: Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)	Introduction Date: June 14, 2023		
Organizational Notes:			

[Press Release](#)

[Cosponsors](#)

NATaT-Member Cosponsors: N/A

Volunteer First Responder Housing Act This bill expands eligibility to qualified volunteer first responders for assistance under (1) the Department of Agriculture Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program, and (2) certain Department of Housing and Urban Development single-family property disposition programs.
