

RESOLUTION 06-05

Emergency Medical Services and Public Safety Communications

Whereas, the National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials (NASEMSO) recognizes the need for an improved national system to assure the availability of voice, data, and other communications for emergency medical services (EMS) and for other public safety disciplines; and

Whereas, EMS communications systems and their capabilities have remained largely unchanged for the past 35 years; and

Whereas, the future ability of EMS providers to successfully treat life-threatening illnesses and injuries will depend on evolving diagnostic, treatment, and resource-coordination technologies linked to emerging communications systems with broadband capability; and

Whereas, these new communications systems will require significant additional new bandwidth in the public safety communications spectrum; and

Whereas, some of this required bandwidth is likely to be in the current 24 MHz public safety allocation at 700MHz; and

Whereas, public safety as a whole needs additional spectrum beyond that current 24 MHz allocation at 700 MHz; and

Whereas, at least one petition has been submitted to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to dedicate to public safety an additional 30 MHz of adjacent spectrum in the 700MHz range which was originally intended for public auction.

Now, therefore be it resolved that the National Association of State Emergency Medical Services Officials (NASEMSO) will join other public safety organizations to advocate such a reallocation of that spectrum and to further develop proposals for a public/private partnership, with significant public safety community oversight, to develop a national public safety broadband network using that spectrum.

Intended Distribution:

Federal Communications Commission

National Public Safety Telecommunications Council and Its Member Organizations