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NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION
OF TOWNS
AND TOWNSHIPS

NATaT 118th Legislative Tracker

Last Updated: April 11, 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 (2)

Bill Number: H.R. 471	Last Action: 02/01/2023 - Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit.	Status: Introduced	Position: Oppose
Title: Safer Highways and Increased Performance for Interstate Trucking (SHIP IT) 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: Dusty Johnson (R-SD-At-Large)	Introduction Date: 01/24/2023		

Organizational Notes:[Press Releases](#)[Cosponsors](#)

NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. Dean Phillips (D-MN-3), Rep. Betty McCollum, (D-MN-4), and Rep. Dwight Evans (D-PA-3)

Bill would allow heavier trucks on the roads during emergencies allowing workers to respond to disease and supply chain emergencies.

Bill Number: H.R. 7432	Last Action: 04/12/2023 – Pending reintroduction.	Status: Not reintroduced in the 118th	Position: Support
Title: Volunteer Driver Tax Appreciation Act of 2022	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: Pending		
Organizational Notes: Cosponsors NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. Dean Phillips (D-MN-3), Rep. Bryan Steil, (R-WI-1), and Rep. Annie Craig (D-MN-2)			

Telecommunications and Cybersecurity Bills (7)

Bill Number:	Last Action:	Status:	Position:
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H.R. 907	02/09/2023 - Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.	Introduced	Support
Title: Protecting Community Television Act	Bill Summary: To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to modify the 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. 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
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: 02/28/2023 - Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.	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 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: 03/24/2023 - Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.	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-LA-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:	Bill Summary:		

Next Generation 9-1-1 Act of 2023	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: Richard Hudson (R-NC-9) Anna Eshoo (D-CA-16)	Introduction Date: 03/24/2023
Organizational Notes: Press Release Cosponsors Bill would authorize \$15 billion to help state and local governments deploy next-generation 9-1-1 systems.	

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
Title: Reforming Broadband Connectivity Act	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			

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.

Bill Number: H.R. 1812	Last Action: 03/27/2023 - Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
Title: Reforming Broadband Connectivity Act of 2023	Bill Summary: To require the Federal Communications Commission to reform the contribution system of the Universal Service Fund, and for other purposes.		
Primary Sponsors: Joseph Neguse (D-CO-2)	Introduction Date: 03/27/2023		
Organizational Notes: Press Release Cosponsors NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. Glenn Grothman (R-WI-6), Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-WI-8), Rep. Angie Craig (D-MN-2) 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 other services that contribute at lower rates or not at all.			

Tax Bills (1)

Bill Number: H.R. 1837	Last Action: 03/28/2023 - Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.	Status: Introduced	Position: Support
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. 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.			

General Government (3)

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 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: S. 977	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), Sen. Robert P. Casey (D-PA) Bill would allocate \$750 million to build, renovate, and modernize fire stations and EMS facilities.	

Bill Number: H.R. 1814	Last Action: 03/28/2023 - Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.	Status: Introduced	Position: 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) Bill would allocate \$750 million to build, renovate, and modernize fire stations and EMS facilities.			

Volunteer First Responders (2)

Bill Number: S. 2316	Last Action: 04/12/2023 – Pending reintroduction.	Status: Not reintroduced in the 118th	Position: Support
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: Pending		
Organizational Notes: Press Release Cosponsors 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.			

Bill Number: H.R. 4377	Last Action: 04/12/2023 – Pending reintroduction.	Status: Not reintroduced in the 118th	Position: Support
Title:	Bill Summary:		

<p>Volunteer First Responder Housing Act</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>Primary Sponsors: Former Rep. Cindy Axne (D-IA-3)</p>	<p>Introduction Date: Pending</p>
<p>Organizational Notes:</p> <p>Cosponsors</p> <p>NATaT-member cosponsors: Rep. Mike Bost (R-IL-12), Rep. Elissa Slotkin (D-MI-8), Rep. Andrew Garbarino (R-NY-2), Rep. Claudia Tenney (R-NY-22), and Rep. Daniel Kildee (D-MI-5)</p> <p>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.</p>	
