



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

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## **International Association of Fire Fighters Statement on Auction of T-Band Radio Frequency**

The recent Notice of Proposed Rule Making from Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Director Ajit Pai regarding auctioning the T-band radio frequency highlights the need for Congress to act immediately to stop this auction. Despite Chairman Pai's previously stated support for keeping the T-band for emergency personnel only, until Congress takes action he is required to initiate this process.

Auctioning the T-band will harm emergency responders in the nation's largest cities, including Boston, New York and Los Angeles and cause them to lose a critical resource – their ability to communicate by radio.

Public safety has invested billions of dollars to build interoperable, mission-critical voice communications systems that help them protect the public's safety. To have fire fighters abandon these systems will cost billions of dollars to replace.

Today, the U.S. House of Representatives is expected to pass legislation repealing the mandate requiring the FCC to hold this auction. The IAFF urges the Senate to follow suit. Congress must stop the auction of T-band and continue to reserve its use for public safety agencies.

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