

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 16, 2026

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Vice Chair
Committee of Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Katie Britt
Chair
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chris Murphy
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Collins, Vice Chair Murray, Chair Britt, and Ranking Member Murphy:

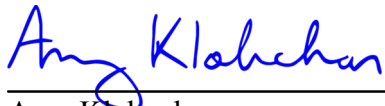
As you begin deliberations Fiscal Year (FY) 2027, we urge you to include increased funding for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant Program. We appreciate the committee's previous strong support of these vital programs, which make important investments in public safety in states and local jurisdictions throughout the country.

The AFG Program has strengthened public safety by providing much-needed funding for infrared cameras, personal protective gear, hazmat detection devices, improved breathing apparatuses, and interoperable communications systems. This equipment is critical to ensuring the safety of firefighters as they respond to emergencies and protect our communities. The cost of this equipment, however, continues to increase year after year, and demand for the AFG Program continues to significantly outpace available funding.

Similarly, the SAFER Grant Program provides critical funding for career and volunteer fire departments to hire, recruit, and retain firefighters. In order to bring our nation's fire departments to the staffing levels needed to serve their communities and respond to emergencies, the SAFER Grant Program must be adequately funded.

We have an obligation to protect those who protect us by providing them with the necessary resources to perform their jobs as safely and effectively as possible. We urge you to meet that obligation by accounting for the increased needs of firefighters nationwide and providing increased funding for the AFG and SAFER programs in FY 2027. Thank you for your consideration of this request and your ongoing commitment to our nation's firefighters.

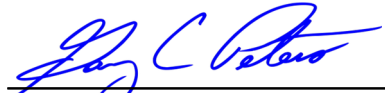
Sincerely,



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Kevin Cramer
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



Roger Marshall, M.D.
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Jack Reed
United States Senator



Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Jon Ossoff
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



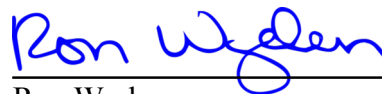
Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Adam B. Schiff
United States Senator



Peter Welch
United States Senator



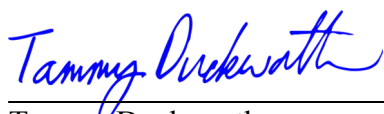
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



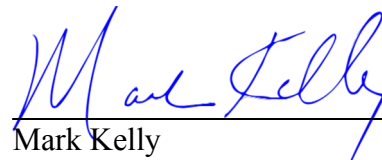
Tina Smith
United States Senator



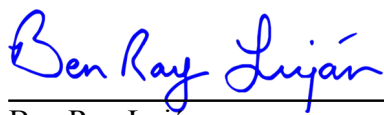
Raphael Warnock
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



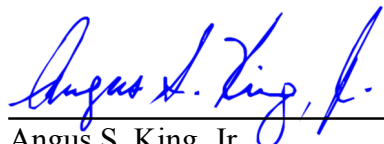
Mark Kelly
United States Senator



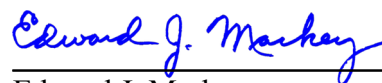
Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



Jacky Rosen
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



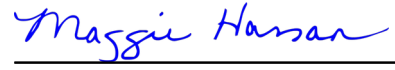
Andy Kim
United States Senator



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Elissa Slotkin
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders
United States Senator

**Homeland Security Group Letter Table
HLS_Klobuchar_Group_260416-022555[LetterID 25822]**

ID	Sub	Request Agency or Account	Request Project Name	Request (\$000)
223804	HLS Group	[Title III]/[Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)]/[Federal Assistance]/[Grants]/[Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grants] [Member Staff] - Adam El-Sahn Adam_El-Sahn@judiciary-dem.senate.gov 202-794-3650	Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grants [Member's Request (text)] - "Increased Funding"	\$0
223833	HLS Group	[Title III]/[Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)]/[Federal Assistance]/[Grants]/[Assistance to Firefighter Grants (AFG)] [Member Staff] - Adam El-Sahn Adam_El-Sahn@judiciary-dem.senate.gov 202-794-3650	Assistance to Firefighter Grants (AFG) [Member's Request (text)] - "Increased funding"	\$0