

## Resolution 2016-02

### Calling for EMS Colleagues to Prepare for and Support FirstNet Implementation in States



**W**hereas the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) recognizes the importance of broadband communications as a foundation for the next generation of emergency medical services and fulfilling its roles in emergency response and in services to meet other needs in community, regional, and state health systems;

**Whereas;** NASEMSO supports the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) as the best method for bringing a reliable, secure, public safety grade, and responsive nationwide public safety broadband network to EMS;

**Whereas** NASEMSO has actively participated in the planning, development, and promotion of a broadband network dedicated to public safety from the beginning of the concept, helping to lead the efforts of such initiatives as the Public Safety Spectrum Trust and the Public Safety Alliance to February 12, 2012, when FirstNet was signed into law;

**Whereas** NASEMSO continues to help lead the FirstNet initiative through its staff and members, believing that the practice of EMS and its impact on patient care will be substantially improved and that the EMS professionals will become the most prevalent FirstNet users;

**Whereas** EMS professionals throughout the country need to become aware of this opportunity, need to prepare to integrate it into their systems of care; and

**Whereas** state governors will be asked to choose whether to allow FirstNet to build the radio access networks to link users and the nationwide network in their state or to engage in a longer process in which the state would build its own network.

**N**ow therefore be it resolved that the National Association of State EMS Officials continues to strongly support the implementation of FirstNet and calls upon colleague EMS associations at the national and state levels to inform their members of the opportunities that FirstNet will provide; and

**Be it further resolved** that the National Association of State EMS Officials calls upon colleague EMS associations at the state and national levels to encourage governors to allow FirstNet to build radio access networks by not proposing to build their own networks.

Submitted by Paul Patrick, Chair, Communications Committee.

Signed this 22nd<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2016.



2016-2018 President



2016-2018 Secretary

**Intended Distribution:**

- **Members, Joint National EMS Leadership Forum**
- **Other National EMS Associations as Deemed Appropriate by Staff**
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