



Dear State Administrative Agent:

The [National Domestic Preparedness Consortium](#) would like to bring to your attention a proposed change in the federal budget that would significantly alter first responder training across the country and affect the overall preparedness of our nation.

The Department of Homeland Security Fiscal Year 2013 budget proposes a shift in state and local program funding to competitive *"training partnership grants in place of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium."* Loss of National Domestic Preparedness Consortium funding would disband the infrastructure that has provided training to over 1.8 million responders at no cost to local jurisdictions for 14 years.

The Consortium training program provides states and local communities with access to millions of dollars in training equipment and materials, instruction by world-renowned subject matter experts from a variety of backgrounds, and the logistical and administrative support to bring critical preparedness courses to responders.

Dissolution of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium would result in the loss of this training infrastructure, loss of the resources and expertise garnered by the Consortium since its inception in 1998, and loss of high-quality, consistent all-hazards training that can be immediately deployed across the country.

The US House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations will take this change under consideration soon. Members of the House Homeland Security Subcommittee include Robert B. Aderholt (R-Alabama), John R. Carter (R-Texas), John Abney Culberson (R-Texas), Rodney P. Frelinghuysen (R-New Jersey), Tom Latham (R-Iowa), Ander Crenshaw (R-Florida), Charles W. Dent (R-Pennsylvania), David E. Price (D-North Carolina), Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-California), Nita M. Lowey (D-New York), and John W. Olver (D-Massachusetts).

During the next few days, please consider contacting these representatives and other pertinent stakeholders to express the importance of the National Domestic Preparedness Consortium to your state and the jurisdictions that rely upon this no-cost training program to maintain and improve responder preparedness.

For more information regarding this urgent matter, contact a Consortium member or Consortium training coordinator.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel C. Walsh".

Dr. Daniel C. Walsh, Chairman
National Domestic Preparedness Consortium