



United States Congress

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E9-1-1 CAUCUS MEMBERS WELCOMES SEN. STEVENS AS NEW SENATE CO-CHAIR

Washington, DC – Senator Hilary Rodham Clinton (D, New York), Congressman John Shimkus (R, Illinois-19), and Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (D, California-14) are pleased to welcome Senator Ted Stevens (R, Alaska) as the new bipartisan co-chair of the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus. Stevens, the Vice Chair of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, will help lead the 51 member Caucus, whose aim is to advance E9-1-1 services and educate policy makers on the importance of the nation's 9-1-1 system.

“Enhancing our nation’s emergency communications system is a top priority,” said Senator Stevens. “I look forward to working with Senator Clinton, Congressman Shimkus, and Congresswoman Eshoo and the other members of the Caucus on these important public safety issues. Improving and strengthening 9-1-1 services for our nation is a worthy goal that everyone can agree on.”

“Senator Stevens has shown a great deal of dedication and leadership in furthering 9-1-1 services, and my fellow co-chairs and I are delighted to welcome him to our leadership team,” Clinton said.

“The E9-1-1 Caucus is truly a bipartisan, bicameral group that works together to advance emergency services and the protection of our citizens,” Shimkus noted. “We are pleased to welcome Senator Stevens as a co-chair.”

“Senator Stevens has a strong commitment to public safety and we’re fortunate to have him join us in leading the E9-1-1 Caucus as we work to improve and expand our country’s life-saving emergency communications systems,” Eshoo said.

The co-chairs of the E9-1-1 Caucus plan to unveil a comprehensive legislative agenda for the 110th Congress soon. Stevens was the primary author of S. 93, the 9-1-1 Modernization Act, which was reported by the Senate Commerce Committee on February 13, 2007. The measure, co-sponsored by Clinton, would provide \$43.5 million in grant funds for public safety answering points (PSAPs) to provide E9-1-1 services.

Senators Clinton and Stevens, Congresswoman Eshoo, and Congressman Shimkus will be honored guests at the fourth annual “9-1-1 Honors Awards,” sponsored by the E9-1-1 Institute and the National Emergency Number Association on March 13 at Union Station. The Gala honors outstanding members of the 9-1-1 community, first responders, and citizen heroes.

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About the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus. Established in 2002, the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus seeks to raise public awareness and educate policy makers on the importance of the nation’s 9-1-1 system and to advance the availability of E9-1-1 services throughout the country. The E9-1-1 Caucus works closely with the public safety community, industry, and citizens to ensure that the best technology is available for emergency communications and that the call centers and emergency networks are adequately funded. To learn more about the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus visit www.e911institute.org.