

1 **2021 NYSAC Legislative Conference**
2 **Standing Committee on Public Safety**
3 **Resolution #3**

4 **Resolution in Support of Legislation to Increase the 9-1-1 Communications**
5 **Surcharge Fee on Wireless and Landline Devices to Account for Increased**
6 **Demand on the 9-1-1 Public Safety Communications Network**

7 **WHEREAS**, counties operate and maintain 9-1-1 and public safety communication
8 functions; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the funding mechanism used today to help operate, maintain, and
10 upgrade 9-1-1 system capabilities is out of date and does not correspond to technology
11 changes; and

12 **WHEREAS**, today, the grant funding we receive from the state is delayed and the
13 process is overly burdensome; and

14 **WHEREAS**, much like the State of New York, counties and local municipalities are
15 struggling from significant losses in revenues due to the current COVID-19 pandemic;
16 and

17 **WHEREAS**, the delay in grant funding is exacerbating the economic impact of
18 COVID-19 on Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) and Interoperable
19 Communications projects throughout the state; and

20 **WHEREAS**, in addition to delays in grant funding, the current surcharge for wireless
21 (pre-paid and post-paid) and landline devices is inadequate to meet the needs of the
22 current 9-1-1 communications network.

23 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of
24 Counties (NYSAC) encourages the Governor and the State of New York to immediately
25 release all delayed grant funding for PSAPs and Interoperable Communications
26 projects; and

27 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the counties of the State of New York call on the
28 Governor and State Legislature to swiftly pass legislation to increase the 9-1-1
29 communications surcharge rates for pre-paid wireless devices, contracted devices and
30 landline devices to generate increased revenue direct to counties; and

31 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be sent to the counties
32 of New York State encouraging member counties to enact similar resolutions; and

33 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC shall forward copies of this resolution to
34 the Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, the New York State Legislature, and all others deemed
35 necessary and proper.