

1 **2021 NYSAC Legislative Conference**
2 **Standing Committee on Public Safety**
3 **Resolution #4**

4 **Resolution in Support of Legislation to Designate Certain Emergency Public**
5 **Safety Telecommunicators as First Responders**

6 **WHEREAS**, counties operate and maintain 9-1-1 and public safety communication
7 functions, including emergency dispatching; and

8 **WHEREAS**, current state public health law does not explicitly specify these
9 professions as “certified first responders;” and

10 **WHEREAS**, legislation introduced in both chambers of the legislature in 2020 sought
11 to rectify this law by amending section 3001 of the public health law; and

12 **WHEREAS**, the legislation would add public safety telecommunicators, emergency
13 responders, emergency operators, emergency complaint operators and emergency
14 service telecommunicators, who provide communication support services within police
15 and sheriff’s departments as well as fire, rescue, and emergency service departments to
16 the public health law, specifying them as “certified first responders.”

17 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New York State Association of
18 Counties (NYSAC) encourages the Governor and the State of New York to
19 immediately pass legislation expanding the definition of “certified first responders” to
20 include public safety telecommunicators, emergency responders, emergency operators,
21 emergency complaint operators and emergency service telecommunicators, who provide
22 communication support services within police and sheriff’s departments as well as fire,
23 rescue, and emergency service departments to the public health law, specifying them as
24 “certified first responders;” and

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

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