

CONGRESS PASSES FY 2021 APPROPRIATIONS, COVID RELIEF LEGISLATION

December 22, 2020

On December 21, the House and Senate passed a year-end legislative package (H.R. 113) that included FY 2021 funding for the federal government, various COVID-19 relief measures, and a tax extenders package that included a [permanent extension](#) of the Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Act.

H.R. 113 provides:

- \$360 million in funding for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant programs, respectively, an increase of \$5 million for each program over the FY 2020 level.
- \$49.3 million for the U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), a \$2.5 million increase over the FY 2020 level.
- \$19 million for the Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) grant program, a \$1 million increase over the FY 2020 level.
- \$2.5 million for the National Firefighter Registry, the full authorized amount.
- \$5.5 million for the Supporting and Improving Rural Emergency Medical Services Needs (SIREN) Act grant program, a \$500,000 increase over the FY 2020 level.