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January 8th, 2025

The Honorable Rand Paul
Chair
Committee on Homeland Security
and Government Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Gary Peters
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security
and Government Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Paul and Ranking Member Peters:

The International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) is the driving force behind nearly every advance in the fire and emergency services in the 21st century. With offices in Washington, D.C., and Ottawa, Ontario, the IAFF is the fire service's strongest voice at the federal level. Today, 85% of communities across the U.S. and Canada are protected by our 353,000 members.

We are often the first on scene to deal with tragedy and disaster and the men and women of the fire and emergency services risk their lives every workday. The IAFF is a strong advocate for federal, state and local cooperation and we recognize the important role the Department of Homeland Security plays in the mission of our members.

We support President Trump's nomination of Governor Kristi Noem for Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. As a Governor, nominee Noem understands emergency management and the importance of government response to emergencies both natural and manmade. She has earned broad support from law enforcement unions, and we join many other organizations in calling for her speedy confirmation.

There is no greater government service than public safety. The members of IAFF are proud to serve our communities, and we look forward to working with Governor Noem and the Department of Homeland Security in the years ahead.

Sincerely,

Edward A. Kelly
General President

1750 New York Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20006

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