

IAEM – Government Affairs Committee

Minutes

June 6, 2023

- Brad Gilbert Update
 - Register is open to the IAEM conference in Long Beach
 - Friday, 1pm OKR meeting this Friday, June 9
 - Posts from GAC on IAEM Connect for minutes and updates - <https://connect.iaem.org/home>
- Thad Huguley Update
 - Emphasize the importance of being connected to IAEM Connect and the GAC community for updates.
- House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Update, Lauren Gros
 - One hearing two weeks ago on FEMA's Strategic Plan
 - Discussed how we can incorporate more equitable solutions.
 - Newer questions were brought up equity/climate change undermines ability to respond directly to disasters.
 - Mark up two weeks ago on Survivor Fairness Act to help move that across the house floor and then eventually to senate.
 - Looking ahead – not sure when the next hearing will be but may focus on coordination of disaster recovery assistance.
- Emergency Management Support Act, Lauren McClain (House Homeland Security Committee)
 - Came about after March Tornado that hit Mississippi.
 - Concerned about support we can give to local emergency managers to be prepared for future events.
 - Through training, etc.
 - Start of a conversation brought about during the tornadoes earlier this year
 - Focus on EMPG funded programs – concerned around this act being tied to EMPG.
 - <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/3626?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22hr3626%22%5D%7D&s=2&r=1>
- AM Radio in Every Vehicle Act, Sara Morris and Liliana Ranon
 - Bill would require all vehicles manufactured in the future to have AM (broadcast) radio installed as a standard.
 - Require a notification to customers that their vehicle does not have AM (broadcast) radio capability.
 - Bill has been supported by NACO, Firefighters Association
 - Removing access to information for folks who don't have subscription services or internet access.
 - The wireless industry on this committee is very powerful and is pushing against anything around a tech mandate – concern over the ability to mandate AM radio.
 - During the hearing there was a strong discussion on the importance of redundancy, especially during an extreme situation when all other communications are down.
 - Today's hearing on AM Radio can be found through this link: <https://youtu.be/IIvSLlo-wko>
 - Asking for everyone to contact members of this committee to reinforce the need for redundancy and the importance of AM radio.
 - NAB is asking for feedback to ensure all voices and backgrounds are heard on these issues.
 - <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/3413?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22%22%5D%7D&s=1&r=1>
 - A briefing and Hill meeting will be held on June 14th.
- SPEED Act, Molly Bargmann (Deputy Director of Recovery, AC Disaster)
 - Concerns are being raised about the SPEED Act that has been implemented into law.
 - NEMA Empowerment Series will focus on this topic on June 14th:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpde-vrTgtH9WH7e1DxOmf50iOxM1xvJe1#/registration>

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- No ability to allow adjustments to small projects for overruns.
- Challenges on getting estimates on work to be completed and slowly the small project processes.
- Not seeing this act expedites small project processes.
- Attendees
 - Allison Farole, Grand Rapids, MI
 - Thad Huguley
 - Christian Cunnie, MEMA
 - Brad Gilbert, Union Co EMA, GAC Chair
 - Jonathan Gaddy
 - Sara Morris, iHeartMedia
 - Cathy Clark
 - Spencer Hawkins, Macon-Bibb EMA
 - Liliana Ranon, NAB
 - Lauren McClain, EM and Technology Committee on Homeland Security
 - Molly Bargmann, AC Disaster Consulting
 - Lauren Gros, T&I Committee
 - Breanna Baker, Oklahoma DEMHS
 - Jason Chenault, UPMC
 - Justin Kates
 - Doug Bryson
 - Ryan Turner, City of Henderson EM
 - Judd Freed, Ramsey County
 - Nick Crossley
 - Jason Wright
 - Leslie Luke
 - David Blevins
 - Christa Lopez