

## House Passes Eshoo Legislation to Increase 9-1-1 Awareness

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WASHINGTON, D.C. — Yesterday by a vote of 381-0 the House of Representatives passed a resolution sponsored by Rep. Anna G. Eshoo (D-Palo Alto) to increase national awareness about the importance and appropriate use of 9-1-1 services.

The legislation, H.Res. 537, supports the designation of one month each year as “National 9-1-1 Education Month.” The designation would encourage the development of annual public awareness events, public advertising campaigns, targeted outreach to schools, and training activities for parents and teachers to ensure that all Americans can access these critical services in an emergency.

“Calling 9-1-1 is the universal lifeline for people in distress and often provides the first alert to public safety professionals about natural disasters and national security threats,” said Eshoo. “This legislation will help everyone know how and when to use 9-1-1, including vulnerable populations.” Eshoo and Rep. John Shimkus (R-Illinois), the House co-chairs of the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus, introduced the legislation on July 11, 2007 and it was cosponsored by 57 House Members. The legislation has the strong support of the E9-1-1 Institute; the National Emergency Number Association (NENA); the National Association of State 9-1-1 Administrators (NASNA); the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO); CTIA — The Wireless Association; 9-1-1 for Kids; and COMCARE-Emergency Response Alliance.

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