

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 16, 2020

Mr. Christopher P. Logan  
Acting Assistant Administrator for Grant Programs  
Grant Programs Directorate  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security / FEMA  
400 C Street S.W., 3N  
Washington, D.C. 20472-3635

Dear Assistant Administrator Logan,

I write in support of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program application for the Town of Brentwood, New Hampshire Fire Department. Funding from AFG will help the department replace non-compliant, 14 year-old self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Improvements to this equipment will enhance the health and safety of first responders and, in turn, the citizens they serve.

The Brentwood Fire Department is made up of 30 mostly on-call members who are witnessing a substantial increase in the number of emergency and fire calls. For the past three years, firefighters have responded to approximately 1000 calls per year, which amounts to a 39% increase in call volume. This includes calls within its first-due area as well as requests for mutual aid. On average, one out of every five of these calls requires the use of SCBA.

The Department is forced to respond to these calls with outdated, non-compliant SCBA. The equipment has malfunctioned on multiple occasions either on fire calls or in training, and costs of repairs have become unsustainable. With support from AFG program, the Brentwood Department will be outfitted with 21 new SCBA packs. This equipment will have modern technological features that make communication easier and keep firefighters safer. With improved and more reliable gear, Brentwood firefighters will be better suited to serve and protect their community as well as their many mutual aid partners.

I support the AFG application from the Brentwood Fire Department and urge your serious consideration of its worthy proposal. If you have any questions, please contact Jon Jarvis from my staff at (603) 647-7500.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator