NWCTPS
COMMUNICATION CENTER

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DSET Docket No. 13-01
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection
Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications
1111 Country Club Road
Middletown, CT 06457

RE: DSET Docket No. 13-01

To Whom It May Concern,

I appreciate the opportunity to comment in **strong support** of the proposed change to the regulations pertaining to the funding of regional public safety answering points. I base my opinion on the finding of the 2012 L.R. Kimball consulting study where irrefutable funding disparities were identified. In review of the Kimball study, the State 9-1-1 Commission, through subcommittee review and recommendation, agreed that the funding formula should be modified and made more equitable. Therefore, referring their recommendation to DSET (Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications) for regulatory change.

Based on the most recent US census and the 2014 9-1-1 calls counts, funding disparities between the larger regional centers and the smaller regional centers is astonishing. Larger centers are funded up $34.15 per call or $10.91 per capita compared to a smaller center that received as little as $12.95 per call or $4.85 per capita. The number of towns served in the current funding formula is so heavily weighted that call volume and population are meaningless.

The highly funded centers are able to deliver services to their member municipalities at a significantly reduced cost and enable them to secure levels of technology that far surpass underfunded centers. Underfunded centers are forced to rely on municipal members for funding and must limit technological advances. The delivery of services to emergency responders, and ultimately the public, is negatively affected by this issue. Exhaustive efforts on this formula have concluded that this change is justified and will result in no financial increase on any level. I strongly urge that this regulation be moved to the Regulatory Committee unchanged.

Sincerely,

Susan M. Webster

Susan M. Webster, ENP, RPL
Executive Director
Northwest CT Public Safety Communication, Inc.