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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3205

April 4, 2018

Mr. Brock Long
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
500 C Street S.W., Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Administrator Long,

I write in support of the application submitted by the North Java Fire Department for funding from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program through the Federal Emergency Management Agency. This funding will allow the North Java Fire Department to replace 22 sets of turnout gear and 24 SCBA air bottles, as well as to purchase washer and dryer units to extend the life of the new gear.

North Java Fire Department is a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization located in Wyoming County. They serve to the 2,000 year-round residents of the community and the 15,000 seasonal residents of Java, Sheldon, and Wethersfield, covering 48 square-miles. North Java provides rescue, fire suppression, and emergency services to the residential and nonresidential areas of Java, Sheldon, and Wethersfield. In 2016, North Java Fire Department responded to 128 calls.

The requested funding will be used to purchase and replace 22 sets of turnout gear and 24 SCBA air bottles, which can no longer be filled as of March 1, 2018. Funds will also be used to purchase washer and dryer units to extend the life of the new gear. In terms of the washers and dryers, the Fire Department currently has volunteers take their equipment home to wash it, however this means whatever chemicals that remains on the gear, enters the volunteers' homes which is a health and safety hazard. This equipment is will ensure the Department is able to serve as effectively and safely as possible.

I ask that you please give this application your full consideration. If you have any questions, or desire further information, please do not hesitate to contact my staff member, Laura Driscoll, at (202) 224-4451.

Sincerely,



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator