

Congresswoman Louise Slaughter (NY-28), Chairwoman of the House Rules Committee, today announced that the House approved a bill that would provide direct assistance to firefighters in Western New York so they can purchase equipment and vehicles, fund vital training and assist fire departments hire firefighting personnel.

“I’m so pleased Congress has reauthorized these vital grants because they will help our heroic firefighters in Western New York,” said Slaughter. “Last year fire companies in my district received more than \$2.4 million from these programs. Reauthorizing these grant programs provides critical resources to local fire departments and renews our commitment to ensuring that communities across America have the equipment, training, and personnel that they count on during emergencies.”

The Fire Grants Reauthorization Act of 2009 was approved today by the House by a vote of 395-31. It reauthorizes the Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) program which enables local fire departments and emergency medical services organizations to purchase or receive training, conduct first responder health and safety programs, and buy equipment and response vehicles.

It also reauthorized the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant program which assists fire departments hire firefighting personnel.

Together these grants provide invaluable financial assistance to local governments, particularly at a time when many local governments around the country have had to layoff firefighters because of the economic downturn.

Last year through these programs, Western New York fire companies in the 28th district received over \$2.4 million. All fire companies will have the opportunity to apply for future grants once the bill is signed into law. Last year's award allocations are included below.

The Fire Grants Reauthorization Act has broad bipartisan support and has been endorsed by the International Association of Fire Chiefs, the International Association of Fire Fighters, and

the National Volunteer Fire Council.

WNY Fire Department

City

Award Type

2009 Award Amount

Buffalo-Niagara Area

Buffalo Fire Department

Buffalo

AFG

\$758,400

Buffalo Fire Department

Slaughter says Firefighter Grants Bill Will Help Local Firefighters

November 18, 2009

Buffalo

AFG

\$758,400

Grand Island Fire Company, Inc.

Grand Island

AFG

\$91,181

Grand Island Fire Company, Inc.

Grand Island

SAFER

\$85,875

Slaughter says Firefighter Grants Bill Will Help Local Firefighters

November 18, 2009

Upper Mountain Fire Company Inc.

Lewiston

AFG

\$35,031

Upper Mountain Fire Company Inc.

Lewiston

SAFER

\$44,000

Niagara Active Hose Co.

Niagara Falls

AFG

Slaughter says Firefighter Grants Bill Will Help Local Firefighters

November 18, 2009

\$118,750

Buffalo-Niagara Total

\$1,891,637

Rochester Area

Brighton Fire District

Rochester

AFG

\$110,722

North Greece Fire District

Rochester

Slaughter says Firefighter Grants Bill Will Help Local Firefighters

November 18, 2009

AFG

\$36,540

Lake Shore Fire District

Rochester

AFG

\$178,881

Rochester Fire Department

Rochester

AFG

\$119,200

Laurelton Fire District

Slaughter says Firefighter Grants Bill Will Help Local Firefighters

November 18, 2009

Rochester

AFG

\$107,635

Rochester Area Total

\$552,978

NY-28 Total

\$2,444,615