



public safety and strengthen the country's telecommunications infrastructure. TIA is the leading organization dedicated to providing better interoperability for first responders using wireless devices. TIA created the Public Safety Communications Working Group to educate and inform members of Congress on matters related to the role of public safety communications in homeland security and to highlight the critical role of federal funding for such efforts.

With regard to CMAS, TIA supported passage of the Warning, Alert, and Response Network Act ("WARN Act")<sup>2</sup> as a critical step in fostering an effective, reliable, integrated, flexible, and comprehensive system to alert and warn the American people in emergency situations.<sup>3</sup> TIA was an active member on the CMSAAC, which was formed pursuant to Section 603 of the WARN Act, and TIA's member companies manufacture much of the communications equipment used to alert the public to any imminent threat to its health or safety.

## DISCUSSION

The *NPRM* seeks comments on the recommendations provided by CMSAAC, including comments on any alternatives to the CMSAAC recommendations.<sup>4</sup> TIA urges the Commission to adopt the CMSAAC recommendations without change. Congress directed the Commission to establish the Committee to development recommendations for the establishment of the CMAS.<sup>5</sup> The CMSAAC was established shortly after enactment of the WARN Act in October 2006 and spent nearly one year evaluating technologies and capabilities for CMAS. It would be unwise and inconsistent with Congressional intent to disregard the recommendations of an expert

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<sup>2</sup> Security and Accountability for Every Port Act of 2006 ("Safe Port Act"), Pub.L. No. 109-347, Title VI — Commercial Mobile Service Alerts ("WARN Act").

<sup>3</sup> See *PulseOnline*, TIA Reflects on 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina; Continues to Work toward Improving Public Safety Interoperability and U.S. Telecommunications Infrastructure (Sept. 2006).

<sup>4</sup> See *NPRM* at ¶ 6.

<sup>5</sup> WARN Act, § 603.

