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October 31, 2005

REPLY TO:

**JAMES F. DALTON** Director of Regional Operations and Public Fire Protection P.O. Box 810 Warrenton, VA 20188 Tel/Fex: (540) 937-3466 e-mail: Dalton@nfsa.org

The Honorable John Larson House of Representatives 1005 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Larson,

I am writing on behalf of the National Fire Sprinkler Association to express our support for proposed legislation that would provide loans and grants for the retrofit of fire sprinkler systems in nursing homes nationwide.

As a former Chief Fire Marshal in Montgomery County, Maryland, I am continually alarmed over the fact that a large number of nursing homes in our nation still lack adequate fire sprinkler protection. Our older Americans certainly deserve better than this.

I salute your dedication to this most important cause and am prepared to support your efforts where necessary and appropriate.

Cordially,

Jim Dalton, Director of Public Fire Protection

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National Fire Sprinkler Association

Cc: Todd Smith, AHCA