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The FY 2012 U.S. Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act (H.R. 2017) originally cut funding for the Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant programs by more than 50 percent. After Congressman Altmire spoke on the House floor about how these programs help western Pennsylvania firefighters protect their communities, the House passed an amendment that restored a significant portion of the funding at no new cost to taxpayers.