

WASHINGTON – Congressman Spencer Bachus (R-Vestavia Hills) today announced that Brookside Fire and Rescue Services has received a \$48,666 grant and the Helena Fire Department has received a grant for \$35,069.

The federal funds, which will be used to purchase new equipment and safety gear, were awarded under the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program.

“The fire stations in both Helena and Brookside needed these funds to upgrade their equipment, and I congratulate Mayor Penhale and Mayor McCondichie,” said Congressman Spencer Bachus. “The citizens and the volunteer firefighters that serve these communities will be safer thanks to this funding.”

“We’ll have enough funding through this grant to purchase all new radios and fire equipment,” said Brookside Mayor Roger McCondichie. “Our radio system will improve 100%, so our thanks goes to Congressman Bachus and his staff for their help.”

“Congressman Bachus does so much for Helena, and every time we call on him he comes through for us,” said Helena Mayor Sonny Penhale. “I really can’t express how thankful we are for his assistance, because with out him we wouldn’t have a lot of things we have now. This is the second grant Congressman Bachus has helped us get in the past year, and we’ll use it for fire equipment to help victims of four-wheeler accidents.”

The primary goal of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and nonaffiliated emergency medical services organizations. Only the applications most closely conforming to program priorities are reviewed and scored by peer review panels.

The program is administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

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