

WASHINGTON – Congressman Spencer Bachus (R-Vestavia Hills) today announced that the Hoover Fire Department has received an \$88,728 grant to improve firefighter safety.

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

“I am pleased to announce funding that will be used to provide equipment necessary to increase the safety and morale of firefighters in Hoover ,” said Congressman Bachus. “There is great competition for these fire grants and the department is to be commended for submitting such a strong proposal.”

“The fire grant will be used to buy 30 new SCBA airpacks for our firefighters,” said Hoover Fire Chief Barry Thrash. “Many of our airpacks needed to be replaced. Having one brand for all units enhances interoperability, which will improve firefighter safety. The new air packs will allow the fighters to ‘buddy breathe’—two fighters can share one pack if one fighter has lost his. They are lighter and safer and will save lives.”

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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