



## **H.Res. 808– Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments**

### **FLOOR SITUATION**

H.Res. 808 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative James Moran (D-VA) on November 8, 2007. The bill and was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and was ordered to be reported by voice vote.

H.Res. 808 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on November 13, 2007.

### **SUMMARY**

H.Res. 808 resolves that the United States House of Representatives offers its sincerest congratulations to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments in recognition of its 50th Anniversary and its legacy of outstanding service to the governments and citizens of greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan region and expresses its appreciation for a job well done

### **BACKGROUND**

In April 1957 forty officials from the Washington area jurisdictions gathered to establish an organization where they could exchange ideas and work together on regional issues such as transportation, the environment, and public safety; this organization became the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG).

The group is comprised of elected officials from 21 local governments of the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures, the U.S. Senate, and the U.S. House of Representatives.

COG has facilitated the development of responses to such issues as the environment, affordable housing, economic development, human services, land use development, public safety and emergency response, and transportation.

COG has worked with area governments and law enforcement and emergency response officials to improve public safety response and coordination for over four decades. This began with the “mutual aid agreements” that assisted with the opening of the Wilson Bridge in 1962. These agreements have continued to the present with homeland security

planning and initiatives such as the regional pawnshop database that has helped recover millions of dollars of stolen property.

**STAFF CONTACT**

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