The New Jersey Deputy Fire Chiefs Association strongly supports the separate approval of SCBA Cylinders to enable market forces to lower the cost of SCBA Cylinders to Fire Departments. We understand that the approval of SCBA Cylinders from other manufacturers will still meet the safety requirements that are now required for compressed gas cylinders. With the reduction of Firefighter forces due to budget constraints, we are using extensive mutual aid for all fires but especially high rise fires. Unfortunately, Mutual Aid Departments seldom have the same air packs as the host department does which causes a logistic nightmare in supplying the correct SCBA Cylinders to the fire fighters in higher floors of a high rise building. We therefore, support the updating of Title 42 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 84 to promote improved respiratory protective devices.

Respectfully yours,
Charles Aughenbaugh, Jr.
Deputy Fire Chief (Ret)
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