

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2862

To provide for wildfire suppression operations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 8, 2017

Mr. SIMPSON (for himself, Mr. SCHRADER, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. CALVERT, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. WALDEN, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. COSTA, Mr. LABRADOR, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. NEWHOUSE, Mr. KILMER, Mr. TIPTON, Mr. POLIS, Ms. SINEMA, and Mr. STIVERS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide for wildfire suppression operations, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Wildfire Disaster
5 Funding Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. WILDFIRE DISASTER FUNDING AUTHORITY.**

2 (a) **DISASTER FUNDING.**—Section 251(b)(2)(D) of
3 the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act
4 of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(D)) is amended—

5 (1) in clause (i)—

6 (A) in the matter preceding subclause (I),
7 by striking “the total of—” and inserting “an
8 amount equal to the difference between—”;

9 (B) by redesignating subclauses (I) and
10 (II) as items (aa) and (bb), respectively, and in-
11 denting the items appropriately;

12 (C) by inserting before item (aa) (as so re-
13 designated) the following:

14 “(I) the sum obtained by add-
15 ing—”;

16 (D) in item (bb) of subclause (I) (as so re-
17 designated)—

18 (i) by striking “subclause (I)” and in-
19 serting “item (aa)”;

20 (ii) by striking the period at the end
21 and inserting “; and”;

22 (E) by adding at the end the following:

23 “(II) the additional new budget
24 authority provided in an appropria-
25 tions Act for wildfire suppression op-
26 erations pursuant to subparagraph

1 (E) for the preceding fiscal year.”;

2 and

3 (2) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(v) Beginning in fiscal year 2018
5 and for each fiscal year thereafter, the cal-
6 culation of the ‘average funding provided
7 for disaster relief over the previous 10
8 years’ shall include, for each fiscal year
9 during that period, the additional new
10 budget authority provided in an appropria-
11 tions Act for wildfire suppression oper-
12 ations pursuant to subparagraph (E) for
13 the preceding fiscal year.”.

14 (b) WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION.—Section 251(b)(2) of
15 the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act
16 of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)) is amended by adding at
17 the end the following:

18 “(E) WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION.—

19 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this subpara-
20 graph:

21 “(I) ADDITIONAL NEW BUDGET
22 AUTHORITY.—The term ‘additional
23 new budget authority’ means the
24 amount provided for a fiscal year in
25 an appropriations Act that is—

1 “(aa) in excess of the 10-
2 year average of the costs for
3 wildfire suppression operations,
4 as calculated for fiscal year 2015;
5 and

6 “(bb) specified to pay for
7 the costs of wildfire suppression
8 operations.

9 “(II) WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION
10 OPERATIONS.—The term ‘wildfire sup-
11 pression operations’ means the emer-
12 gency and unpredictable aspects of
13 wildland firefighting including—

14 “(aa) support, response, and
15 emergency stabilization activities;

16 “(bb) other emergency man-
17 agement activities; and

18 “(cc) the funds necessary to
19 repay any transfers needed for
20 the costs of wildfire suppression
21 operations.

22 “(ii) ADDITIONAL NEW BUDGET AU-
23 THORITY.—If a bill or joint resolution
24 making appropriations for a fiscal year is
25 enacted that specifies an amount for wild-

1 fire suppression operations in the Wildland
2 Fire Management accounts at the Depart-
3 ment of Agriculture or the Department of
4 the Interior, the adjustments for that fiscal
5 year shall be the amount of additional new
6 budget authority provided in that Act for
7 wildfire suppression operations for that fis-
8 cal year, but shall not exceed—

9 “(I) for fiscal year 2017,
10 \$1,410,000,000 in additional new
11 budget authority;

12 “(II) for fiscal year 2018,
13 \$1,460,000,000 in additional new
14 budget authority;

15 “(III) for fiscal year 2019,
16 \$1,560,000,000 in additional new
17 budget authority;

18 “(IV) for fiscal year 2020,
19 \$1,780,000,000 in additional new
20 budget authority;

21 “(V) for fiscal year 2021,
22 \$2,030,000,000 in additional new
23 budget authority;

1 “(VI) for fiscal year 2022,
2 \$2,320,000,000 in additional new
3 budget authority;

4 “(VII) for fiscal year 2023,
5 \$2,650,000,000 in additional new
6 budget authority;

7 “(VIII) for fiscal year 2024,
8 \$2,690,000,000 in additional new
9 budget authority;

10 “(IX) for fiscal year 2025,
11 \$2,690,000,000 in additional new
12 budget authority; and

13 “(X) for fiscal year 2026,
14 \$2,690,000,000 in additional new
15 budget authority.

16 “(iii) AVERAGE COST AND OUTYEAR
17 CALCULATIONS.—The 10-year average of
18 the costs for wildfire suppression oper-
19 ations and the outyear forecasts of the
20 costs for wildfire suppression operations
21 shall be—

22 “(I) calculated annually; and

23 “(II) reported in the budget of
24 the President submitted under section

1 1105(a) of title 31, United States
2 Code, for each fiscal year.”.

3 (c) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—If the Secretary of
4 the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture determines
5 that supplemental appropriations are necessary for a fiscal
6 year for wildfire suppression operations (as defined in sub-
7 paragraph (E)(i) of section 251(b)(2) of the Balanced
8 Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2
9 U.S.C. 901(b)(2))), the Secretary of the Interior or the
10 Secretary of Agriculture, as applicable, shall—

11 (1) promptly submit to Congress a request for
12 the supplemental appropriations; and

13 (2) not later than 30 days after the date on
14 which the supplemental appropriations are made
15 available, submit to Congress a plan describing the
16 manner in which the Secretary of the Interior or the
17 Secretary of Agriculture, as applicable, intends to
18 obligate the supplemental appropriations.

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