

S 1814

Wildfire Smoke Emergency Declaration Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: Jun 12, 2019

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (Jun 12, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1814>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]

Party: Democratic • **State:** OR • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jun 12, 2019
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Oct 15, 2019
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Oct 31, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 12, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Wildfire Smoke Emergency Declaration Act of 2019

This bill authorizes the President to declare a smoke emergency and provide emergency assistance to affected communities under specified circumstances.

Specifically, the President, upon determining that there is, or anticipating that there will be, a significant decrease in air quality due to wildland fire smoke in one or more states, may declare a smoke emergency. The governor or other agency of a state that is or will be affected may request such a declaration.

If the President declares a smoke emergency, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other federal agencies may provide emergency assistance to states and local communities that are or will be affected by the emergency, including grants, equipment, supplies, and personnel and resources for establishing smoke shelters, air purifiers, and additional air monitoring sites.

The Small Business Administration may provide grants to any small business concern that loses a significant amount of revenue due to wildland fire smoke in an area in which the President has declared a smoke emergency.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 12, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 12, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.