

S 2882

Wildfire Defense Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: Nov 18, 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. (Nov 18, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/2882>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Jul 22, 2020
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Sep 23, 2020
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Dec 1, 2020
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Dec 10, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Nov 18, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 5091	Related bill	Dec 4, 2019: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.

Wildfire Defense Act

This bill directs the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to establish a community wildfire defense grant program and requires other actions by FEMA, the Government Accountability Office (GAO), and the Forest Service with respect to wildfires.

In awarding grants, FEMA must give priority to state and local governments, Indian tribes, and joint authorities that will carry out projects or plans supporting a low-income community in a fire-hazard area or a severe disaster impacted community in a fire-hazard area.

The GAO shall publish (1) a report on authorities and programs that are available to protect communities from wildfires; and (2) a study on the potential for a community wildfire defense plan to qualify for a certification identifying a level of wildfire survivability and resilience, and how to incentivize insurance companies to accept the certification.

The Forest Service shall develop and publish a map depicting at-risk communities.

FEMA shall prepare a report relating to insufficient radio frequencies, barriers to interoperability of radio frequencies, and available products and technologies for overcoming barriers to interoperability for wildland fire management.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 18, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Nov 18, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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