HR 5091

Wildfire Defense Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)
Chamber: House
Policy Area: Emergency Management
Introduced: Nov 14, 2019
Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry. (Dec 4, 2019)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5091

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]
Party: Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (20 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. DeSaulnier, Mark [D-CA-11]	D · CA		Nov 21, 2019
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Nov 21, 2019
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Nov 21, 2019
Rep. Thompson, Mike [D-CA-5]	D · CA		Nov 21, 2019
Rep. Chu, Judy [D-CA-27]	D · CA		Dec 4, 2019
Rep. Cisneros, Gilbert Ray, Jr. [D-CA-39]	D · CA		Jan 13, 2020
Rep. O'Halleran, Tom [D-AZ-1]	D · AZ		Sep 23, 2020
Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		Oct 1, 2020
Rep. Cleaver, Emanuel [D-MO-5]	D · MO		Oct 1, 2020
Rep. Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [D-GA-2]	D · GA		Oct 16, 2020
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Oct 16, 2020
Rep. Cárdenas, Tony [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Oct 16, 2020
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Oct 16, 2020
Rep. Eshoo, Anna G. [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Oct 16, 2020
Rep. Khanna, Ro [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Oct 16, 2020
Rep. Waters, Maxine [D-CA-43]	D · CA		Oct 16, 2020
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Nov 9, 2020
Rep. Levin, Mike [D-CA-49]	D · CA		Nov 9, 2020
Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24]	D · CA		Dec 2, 2020
Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-45]	D · CA		Dec 16, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 4, 2019
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 2, 2019
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Nov 15, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 2882	Related bill	**Nov 18, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Summary (as of Nov 14, 2019)

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

- **Dec 4, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
- **Dec 2, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands.
- **Nov 15, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.
- **Nov 14, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 14, 2019:** Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Agriculture, 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.

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