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Smoke and Heat Ready Communities Act of 2025

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Jan 30, 2025

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (Jan 30, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/341>

Sponsor

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

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

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jan 30, 2025
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jan 30, 2025
Sen. Padilla, Alex [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 30, 2025
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Jan 30, 2025
Sen. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA]	D · CA		Jan 30, 2025
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 30, 2025
Sen. Smith, Tina [D-MN]	D · MN		Sep 2, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 30, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 903	Identical bill	Jan 31, 2025: Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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.

Smoke and Heat Ready Communities Act of 2025

This bill authorizes the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to make grants to air pollution control agencies to support the development and implementation of programs that support local communities in detecting, preparing for, communicating with the public about, or mitigating the environmental and public health aspects of wildfire smoke and extreme heat. The EPA must establish a formula to distribute the grants among air pollution control agencies.

The bill requires the EPA to establish four Centers of Excellence for Wildfire Smoke and Extreme Heat at institutions of higher education to research (1) the effects of smoke emissions from wildland fires and extreme heat on public health, and (2) the means by which communities can better respond to impacts from such conditions.

Additionally, the EPA must begin to carry out research to

- study the health effects of smoke emissions from wildland fires and extreme heat;
- develop and disseminate personal and community-based interventions to reduce exposure to, and health effects of, wildland fire smoke emissions and extreme heat;
- increase the quality of smoke and extreme heat monitoring and prediction tools and techniques; and
- develop implementation and communication strategies.

The EPA must also establish a competitive grant program to assist certain entities (e.g., a state) in developing and implementing collaborative community plans for mitigating the impacts of smoke emissions from wildland fires and extreme heat.

