

HR 956

Aerial Firefighting Enhancement Act of 2025

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Feb 4, 2025

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Forestry and Horticulture.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Forestry and Horticulture. (Mar 7, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/956>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4]

Party: Republican • **State:** WA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (17 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24] | D · CA | | Feb 4, 2025 |
| Rep. Ellzey, Jake [R-TX-6] | R · TX | | Feb 4, 2025 |
| Rep. Vasquez, Gabe [D-NM-2] | D · NM | | Feb 4, 2025 |
| Rep. Zinke, Ryan K. [R-MT-1] | R · MT | | Feb 6, 2025 |
| Rep. Fulcher, Russ [R-ID-1] | R · ID | | Feb 12, 2025 |
| Rep. Bentz, Cliff [R-OR-2] | R · OR | | Feb 27, 2025 |
| Rep. Jacobs, Sara [D-CA-51] | D · CA | | Mar 3, 2025 |
| Rep. Stansbury, Melanie A. [D-NM-1] | D · NM | | Mar 10, 2025 |
| Rep. Simpson, Michael K. [R-ID-2] | R · ID | | Mar 27, 2025 |
| Rep. Cisneros, Gilbert Ray, Jr. [D-CA-31] | D · CA | | Mar 31, 2025 |
| Rep. Downing, Troy [R-MT-2] | R · MT | | Apr 1, 2025 |
| Rep. Harder, Josh [D-CA-9] | D · CA | | Apr 1, 2025 |
| Rep. Valadao, David G. [R-CA-22] | R · CA | | Apr 21, 2025 |
| Rep. Biggs, Andy [R-AZ-5] | R · AZ | | May 6, 2025 |
| Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1] | R · CA | | Jun 3, 2025 |
| Rep. Vindman, Eugene Simon [D-VA-7] | D · VA | | Oct 3, 2025 |
| Rep. Whitesides, George [D-CA-27] | D · CA | | Nov 21, 2025 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|---|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Agriculture Committee | | | |
| Agriculture Committee | House | Referred to | Mar 7, 2025 |
| Armed Services Committee | | | |
| Armed Services Committee | House | Referred To | Feb 4, 2025 |
| Oversight and Government Reform Committee | | | |
| Oversight and Government Reform Committee | House | Referred To | Feb 4, 2025 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

| Bill | Relationship | Last Action |
|-----------|----------------|--|
| 119 S 160 | Identical bill | Jun 12, 2025: Became Public Law No: 119-18. |
| 119 S 160 | | |

Summary (as of Mar 24, 2025)

Aerial Firefighting Enhancement Act of 2025

This bill reauthorizes the Department of Defense to sell its excess aircraft and aircraft parts that are acceptable for commercial sale for wildfire suppression purposes. Such authority begins October 1, 2025, and ends October 1, 2035.

The bill also provides that such aircraft may be used to deliver water by air in order to suppress wildfire (the previous authority only provided for the delivery of fire retardant).

The bill removes the previous limitation on providing international wildfire suppression assistance with such purchased aircraft.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 7, 2025:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Forestry and Horticulture.
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