

107TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2471

To provide for the independent investigation of Federal wildland firefighter fatalities.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 8, 2002

Ms. CANTWELL introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To provide for the independent investigation of Federal wildland firefighter fatalities.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION OF FEDERAL**  
4       **WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER FATALITIES.**

5       (a) DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.—In each case  
6 of a fatality of a firefighter employed by any agency of  
7 the Department of the Interior that occurs due to wildfire  
8 entrapment or burnover, the Inspector General of the De-  
9 partment shall—

1           (1) conduct an investigation of the fatality that  
2 does not rely on, and is completely independent of,  
3 any investigation conducted by an agency under the  
4 administrative jurisdiction of the Secretary of the  
5 Interior; and

6           (2) submit to the Secretary and Congress a re-  
7 port on the fatality.

8           (b) DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—In each case  
9 of a fatality of a firefighter employed by the Forest Service  
10 that occurs due to wildfire entrapment or burnover, the  
11 Inspector General of the Department shall—

12           (1) conduct an investigation of the fatality that  
13 does not rely on, and is completely independent of,  
14 any investigation conducted by the Forest Service;  
15 and

16           (2) submit to the Secretary of Agriculture and  
17 Congress a report on the fatality.

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