

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 153

To provide for the monitoring of the long-term medical health of firefighters who responded to emergencies in certain disaster areas and for the treatment of such firefighters.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 4, 2007

Mrs. BOXER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

FEBRUARY 5, 2007

Committee discharged; referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To provide for the monitoring of the long-term medical health of firefighters who responded to emergencies in certain disaster areas and for the treatment of such firefighters.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be referred to as the “Healthy Fire-
5 fighters Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) Firefighters from the San Jacinto Ranger
4 District responded to the Esperanza Incident wild-
5 fire in southern California in October of 2006.

6 (2) Five firefighters from the San Jacinto
7 Ranger District lost their lives as a consequence of
8 fighting that fire.

9 **SEC. 3. MONITORING AND TREATMENT OF FIREFIGHTERS**
10 **IN DISASTER AREAS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—The United States Fire Adminis-
12 tration, after consultation with the National Institute for
13 Occupational Safety and Health, shall—

14 (1) contract with an appropriate, locally based
15 medical research university to conduct long-term
16 medical health monitoring of those firefighters who
17 responded to emergencies in any areas referred to in
18 subsection (b); and

19 (2) in consultation with the Secretary of Health
20 and Human Services, provide for the treatment of
21 firefighters described in paragraph (1) who suffer
22 health-related conditions as a result of responding to
23 such emergencies.

24 (b) AFFECTED FIREFIGHTERS.—An area referred to
25 in this subsection is any area which is declared a disaster
26 area by the Federal Government.

1 (c) HEALTH MONITORING.—The long-term health
2 monitoring referred to in subsection (a) shall include—

3 (1) pulmonary illness, neurological damage, and
4 cardiovascular damage; and

5 (2) exposure documentation.

6 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
7 are authorized to be appropriated to the United States
8 Fire Administration to carry out this section, such sums
9 as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2007 through
10 2011.

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