

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 975

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## AN ACT

Granting the consent and approval of Congress to an  
interstate forest fire protection compact.

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

1 **SECTION 1. CONSENT OF CONGRESS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The consent and approval of Con-  
3 gress is given to an interstate forest fire protection com-  
4 pact, as set out in subsection (b).

5 (b) COMPACT.—The compact reads substantially as  
6 follows:

7 **“THE GREAT PLAINS WILDLAND FIRE**  
8 **PROTECTION AGREEMENT**

9 “THIS AGREEMENT is entered into by and be-  
10 tween the State, Provincial and Territorial wildland fire  
11 protection agencies signatory hereto, hereinafter referred  
12 to as ‘Members’.

13 “FOR, AND IN CONSIDERATION OF the fol-  
14 lowing terms and conditions, the Members agree:

15 **“ARTICLE I**

16 “The purpose of this compact is to promote effective  
17 prevention and control of forest fires in the Great Plains  
18 region of the United States by the maintenance of ade-  
19 quate forest fire fighting services by the member states,  
20 and by providing for reciprocal aid in fighting forest fires  
21 among the compacting states of the region, including  
22 South Dakota, North Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado, and  
23 any adjoining sate of a current member state.







1 diminution of the forest fighting forces, equipment, serv-  
2 ices, or facilities of any member state.

3 “Nothing in this compact authorizes or permits any  
4 member state to curtail or diminish its forest fire fighting  
5 forces, equipment, services, or facilities. Each member  
6 state shall maintain adequate forest fighting forces and  
7 equipment to meet demands for forest fire protection with-  
8 in its borders in the same manner and to the same extent  
9 as if this compact were not operative.

10 “Nothing in this compact limits or restricts the pow-  
11 ers of any state ratifying the compact to provide for the  
12 prevention, control, and extinguishment of forest fires, or  
13 to prohibit the enactment or enforcement of state laws,  
14 rules, or regulations intended to aid in the prevention, con-  
15 trol, and extinguishment in the state.

16 “Nothing in this compact affects any existing or fu-  
17 ture cooperative relationship or arrangement between the  
18 United States Forest Service and a member state or  
19 states.

20 “ARTICLE VII

21 “Representatives of the United States Forest Service  
22 may attend meetings of the compact administrators.

23 “ARTICLE VIII

24 “The provisions of Articles IV and V of this compact  
25 that relate to reciprocal aid in combating, controlling, or

1 preventing forest fires are operative as between any state  
2 party to this compact and any other state which is party  
3 to this compact and any other state that is party to a  
4 regional forest fire protection compact in another region  
5 if the Legislature of the other state has given its assent  
6 to the mutual aid provisions of this compact.

7 “ARTICLE IX

8 “This compact shall continue in force and remain  
9 binding on each state ratifying it until the Legislature or  
10 the Governor of the state takes action to withdraw from  
11 the compact. Such action in not effective until six months  
12 after notice of the withdrawal has been sent by the chief  
13 executive of the state desiring to withdraw to the chief  
14 executives of all states then parties to the compact.”.

Passed the Senate July 13, 2007.

Attest:

*Secretary.*

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