

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 167

To provide for adjustments to discretionary spending under section 251(b)(2) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to support wildfire suppression operations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 2015

Mr. SIMPSON (for himself and Mr. SCHRADER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Budget, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture and Natural Resources, 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

A BILL

To provide for adjustments to discretionary spending under section 251(b)(2) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to support wildfire suppression operations, and for other purposes.

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 cited as the “Wildfire Disaster
5 Funding Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. WILDFIRE DISASTER FUNDING AUTHORITY.**

2 (a) ADJUSTMENTS TO DISCRETIONARY SPENDING
3 LIMITS.—Section 251(b)(2) of the Balanced Budget and
4 Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C.
5 901(b)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

6 “(E) FLAME WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION.—(i)
7 If a bill or joint resolution making appropria-
8 tions for a fiscal year is enacted that specifies
9 an amount for wildfire suppression operations
10 in the Wildland Fire Management accounts at
11 the Department of Agriculture or the Depart-
12 ment of the Interior, then the adjustments for
13 that fiscal year shall be the amount of addi-
14 tional new budget authority provided in that
15 Act for wildfire suppression operations for that
16 fiscal year, but shall not exceed \$2,689,000,000
17 in additional new budget authority in each of
18 fiscal years 2015 through 2022.

19 “(ii) If the Secretary of the Interior or the
20 Secretary of Agriculture determines that sup-
21 plemental appropriations are necessary for a
22 fiscal year for wildfire suppression operations,
23 such Secretary shall promptly submit to Con-
24 gress—

25 “(I) a request for such supplemental
26 appropriations; and

1 “(II) a plan detailing the manner in
2 which such Secretary intends to obligate
3 the supplemental appropriations within 30
4 days after the date on which such supple-
5 mental appropriations are made available.

6 “(iii) The average costs for wildfire sup-
7 pression operations over the previous 10 years
8 shall be calculated annually and reported in the
9 President’s budget submission under section
10 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, for
11 each fiscal year.

12 “(iv) As used in this subparagraph—

13 “(I) the term ‘additional new budget
14 authority’ means the amount provided for
15 a fiscal year, in excess of 70 percent of the
16 average costs for wildfire suppression oper-
17 ations over the previous 10 years, in an
18 appropriation Act and specified to pay for
19 the costs of wildfire suppression oper-
20 ations; and

21 “(II) the term ‘wildfire suppression
22 operations’ means the emergency and un-
23 predictable aspects of wildland firefighting
24 including support, response, and emer-
25 gency stabilization activities, other emer-

1 gency management activities, and funds
2 necessary to repay any transfers needed
3 for these costs.”.

4 (b) DISASTER FUNDING.—Section 251(b)(2)(D) of
5 the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act
6 of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(D)) is amended—

7 (1) in clause (i)—

8 (A) in subclause (I), by striking “and” and
9 inserting “plus”;

10 (B) in subclause (II), by striking the pe-
11 riod and inserting “; less”; and

12 (C) by adding the following:

13 “(III) the additional new budget
14 authority provided in an appropriation
15 Act for wildfire suppression operations
16 pursuant to subparagraph (E) for the
17 preceding fiscal year.”; and

18 (2) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(v) Beginning in fiscal year 2017
20 and in subsequent fiscal years, the calcula-
21 tion of the ‘average funding provided for
22 disaster relief over the previous 10 years’
23 under clause (i)(I) shall include any addi-
24 tional new budget authority provided in an
25 appropriation Act for wildfire suppression

1 operations pursuant to subparagraph
2 (E).”.

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