

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3025

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide a criminal penalty for launching drones that interfere with fighting wildfires affecting Federal property, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 10, 2015

Mr. COOK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide a criminal penalty for launching drones that interfere with fighting wildfires affecting Federal property, 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 Airspace Pro-
5 tection Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. LAUNCHING DRONES THAT INTERFERE WITH**
 2 **FIGHTING WILDFIRES AFFECTING FEDERAL**
 3 **PROPERTY.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 65 of title 18, United
 5 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 6 lowing:

7 **“§ 1370. Launching drones that interfere with fight-**
 8 **ing wildfires affecting Federal property**

9 “(a) OFFENSE.—Except as provided in subsection
 10 (b), whoever knowingly launches a drone in a place near
 11 a wildfire that threatens the real or personal property of
 12 the United States, or of any department or agency thereof,
 13 and is reckless as to whether that drone will interfere with
 14 fighting the fire, if the drone does interfere with that fire-
 15 fighting, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not
 16 more than 5 years, or both.

17 “(b) DEFENSE.—It is a defense to a prosecution for
 18 an offense under this section that the drone was launched
 19 by a firefighter or other public safety officer acting in the
 20 course of official duty.”.

21 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
 22 for chapter 65 of title 18, United States Code, is amended
 23 by adding at the end the following new item:

“1370. Launching drones that interfere with fighting wildfires affecting Federal
 property.”.

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