

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4924

To authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct research on wildfire smoke, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 30, 2019

Ms. ESHOO (for herself, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. COSTA, Mr. KHANNA, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mrs. TORRES of California, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. BARRAGÁN, Ms. PORTER, Mr. CORREA, Mr. ROUDA, Mr. LEVIN of California, Mr. PETERS, Ms. SPEIER, and Mr. LOWENTHAL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, 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 authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct research on wildfire smoke, 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 “Smoke Planning and
5 Research Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. RESEARCH ON WILDFIRE SMOKE.**

2 (a) CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE.—

3 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
4 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Adminis-
5 trator of the Environmental Protection Agency (re-
6 ferred to in this section as the “Administrator”)
7 shall establish at institutions of higher education 4
8 centers, each of which shall be known as a “Center
9 of Excellence for Wildfire Smoke”, to carry out re-
10 search relating to—

11 (A) the effects on public health of smoke
12 emissions from wildland fires; and

13 (B) means by which communities can bet-
14 ter respond to the impacts of emissions from
15 wildland fires.

16 (2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

17 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Ad-
18 ministrator to carry out this subsection \$10,000,000
19 for fiscal year 2020 and each fiscal year thereafter.

20 (b) RESEARCH.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
22 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Adminis-
23 trator shall carry out research—

24 (A) to study the health effects of smoke
25 emissions from wildland fires;

1 (B) to develop and disseminate personal
2 and community-based interventions to reduce
3 exposure to and adverse health effects of smoke
4 emissions from wildland fires;

5 (C) to increase the quality of smoke moni-
6 toring and prediction tools and techniques; and

7 (D) to develop implementation and com-
8 munication strategies.

9 (2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

10 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Ad-
11 ministrator to carry out this subsection \$20,000,000
12 for fiscal year 2020 and each fiscal year thereafter.

13 **SEC. 3. COMMUNITY SMOKE PLANNING.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
15 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall es-
16 tablish a competitive grant program to assist eligible enti-
17 ties described in subsection (b) in developing and imple-
18 menting collaborative community plans for mitigating the
19 impacts of smoke emissions from wildland fires.

20 (b) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An entity that is eligible
21 to submit an application for a grant under subsection (a)
22 is—

23 (1) a State;

1 (2) a unit of local government (including any
2 special district, such as an air quality management
3 district or a school district); or

4 (3) an Indian Tribe.

5 (c) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a grant
6 under subsection (a), an eligible entity described in sub-
7 section (b) shall submit to the Administrator an applica-
8 tion at such time, in such manner, and containing such
9 information as the Administrator may require.

10 (d) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator
11 may use amounts made available to carry out this section
12 to provide to eligible entities described in subsection (b)
13 technical assistance in—

14 (1) submitting grant applications under sub-
15 section (c); or

16 (2) carrying out projects using a grant under
17 this section.

18 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
19 authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to
20 carry out this section \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2020
21 and each fiscal year thereafter.

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