

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9703

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on existing programs, rules, and authorities that enable or inhibit wildfire mitigation across land ownership boundaries on Federal and non-Federal land.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

Mr. NEGUSE (for himself, Mrs. KIM of California, Mr. HARDER of California, and Mr. MOLINARO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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 direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on existing programs, rules, and authorities that enable or inhibit wildfire mitigation across land ownership boundaries on Federal and non-Federal land.

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 “Cross-Boundary Wild-
5 fire Solutions Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. STUDY ON WILDFIRE MITIGATION ACROSS LAND**
2 **OWNERSHIP BOUNDARIES.**

3 (a) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Comptroller General of
4 the United States shall conduct a study on—

5 (1) the existing Federal programs, rules, and
6 authorities that enable or inhibit wildfire mitigation
7 from being completed across land ownership bound-
8 aries on Federal and non-Federal land;

9 (2) whether changes to any program, rule, or
10 authority identified pursuant to paragraph (1) would
11 allow Federal land management agencies (as defined
12 in section 802 of the Federal Lands Recreation En-
13 hancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6801)), the Secretary of
14 Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Natural
15 Resource Conservation Service, the Secretary of
16 Homeland Security, acting through the Adminis-
17 trator of the Federal Emergency Management Agen-
18 cy, the U.S. Fire Administration, States, local gov-
19 ernments, and Tribal governments increased capac-
20 ity or access to funding to mitigate wildfires; and

21 (3) the activities carried out pursuant to sub-
22 section (e) of section 103 of the Healthy Forests
23 Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6513), includ-
24 ing—

25 (A) how to improve the efficacy of such ac-
26 tivities with respect to mitigating wildfire; and

1 (B) whether the enactment of such sub-
2 section has increased the access of Federal land
3 management agencies and States to funding to
4 mitigate wildfires.

5 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date
6 of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of
7 the United States shall submit to the Committee on Nat-
8 ural Resources of the House of Representatives and the
9 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources in the Sen-
10 ate a report that contains—

11 (1) the results of the study required under sub-
12 section (a); and

13 (2) recommendations to simplify cross-boundary
14 wildfire mitigation between Federal land manage-
15 ment agencies and State, local, and Tribal govern-
16 ments.

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