

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2520

To require the standardization of reciprocal fire suppression cost share agreements, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 26, 2023

Mr. LUJÁN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To require the standardization of reciprocal fire suppression cost share agreements, 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 “Fire Department Re-
5 payment Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO CERTAIN FIRE SUP-**
7 **PRESSION COST SHARE AGREEMENTS.**

8 (a) SECRETARIES DEFINED.—In this section, the
9 term “Secretaries” means—

10 (1) the Secretary of Agriculture;

1 (2) the Secretary of the Interior;

2 (3) the Secretary of Homeland Security; and

3 (4) the Secretary of Defense.

4 (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF STANDARD OPERATING
5 PROCEDURES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of
6 enactment of this section, the Secretaries shall—

7 (1) establish standard operating procedures re-
8 lating to fire suppression cost share agreements es-
9 tablished under the Act of May 27, 1955 (42 U.S.C.
10 1856a) (commonly known as the “Reciprocal Fire
11 Protection Act”); and

12 (2) with respect to each fire suppression cost
13 share agreement in operation on such date—

14 (A) review each agreement; and

15 (B) modify each agreement as necessary to
16 comply with the standard operating procedures
17 required under paragraph (1).

18 (c) ALIGNMENT OF FIRE SUPPRESSION COST SHARE
19 AGREEMENTS WITH COOPERATIVE FIRE PROTECTION
20 AGREEMENTS.—The standard operating procedures re-
21 quired under subsection (b)(1) shall include a requirement
22 that each fire suppression cost share agreement be aligned
23 with each of the cooperative fire protection agreements ap-
24 plicable to the entity subject to the fire suppression cost
25 share agreement.

1 (d) SECOND-LEVEL REVIEW.—The standard oper-
2 ating procedures required under subsection (b)(1) shall in-
3 clude—

4 (1) a requirement that the Secretaries, to the
5 maximum extent practicable, complete reviews, in-
6 cluding second-level reviews of a fire suppression
7 cost share agreement, as soon as practicable after a
8 wildfire relating to the area covered by the fire sup-
9 pression cost share agreement is contained; and

10 (2) a requirement that in completing the re-
11 views under paragraph (1), the Secretaries consult
12 with State and local fire suppression organizations.

○