

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4976

To improve understanding and policy responses to the impacts of wildfire smoke on children in educational and childcare settings, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 15, 2025

Ms. DEXTER (for herself, Mr. TONKO, Ms. McCLELLAN, Ms. NORTON, Ms. TLAIB, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mrs. McIVER, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. EVANS of Pennsylvania, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. PETTERSEN, Mr. THANEDAR, and Ms. DEGETTE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Workforce

A BILL

To improve understanding and policy responses to the impacts of wildfire smoke on children in educational and childcare settings, 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 “Shielding Students
5 from Wildfire Smoke Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REVIEW OF IMPACTS OF WILDFIRE SMOKE ON**
2 **CHILDREN IN EDUCATIONAL AND**
3 **CHILDCARE SETTINGS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Envi-
5 ronmental Protection Agency shall seek to enter into a
6 contract with the National Academies of Sciences, Engi-
7 neering, and Medicine to conduct a review of existing
8 school and childcare policies addressing wildfire smoke ex-
9 posure, both during and after a wildfire event, to ensure
10 that children in K–12 educational settings and young chil-
11 dren in childcare settings, including in out-of-school or
12 out-of-childcare activities (such as children’s sports and
13 summer camps) that are administered by a school or
14 childcare program are adequately protected from the risks
15 posed by wildfire smoke.

16 (b) ELEMENTS.—The review under subsection (a)
17 shall contain the following:

18 (1) An assessment of current standards, guid-
19 ance, and mitigation strategies for wildfire smoke in
20 K–12 educational settings and childcare settings, in-
21 cluding in out-of-school or out-of-childcare activities.

22 (2) An identification of gaps in research and
23 policy relating to such standards, guidance, and
24 strategies.

25 (3) Recommendations to Congress regarding
26 strategies to better protect children during and after

- 1 wildfire smoke events, including children in under-
- 2 resourced K–12 educational settings and childcare
- 3 settings.

