

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6546

To require the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to jointly report to Congress on certain efforts to address the COVID–19 pandemic, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 17, 2020

Mr. NEGUSE (for himself and Mr. CURTIS) 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 require the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to jointly report to Congress on certain efforts to address the COVID–19 pandemic, 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 and Commu-
5 nity Health Response Act of 2020”.

1 **SEC. 2. REPORT ON WILDFIRE RISK DURING COVID-19 PAN-**
2 **DEMIC.**

3 (a) FIRST REPORT.—Not later than May 31, 2020,
4 the Secretaries concerned shall jointly submit to Congress
5 a report on—

6 (1) the activities that the Department of Agri-
7 culture and the Department of the Interior, respec-
8 tively, have carried out, are carrying out, or will
9 carry out to—

10 (A) mitigate wildfire risk during the
11 COVID-19 pandemic, including activities to
12 minimize the impact of wildfires on the res-
13 piratory health of communities;

14 (B) identify methods of fuels reduction
15 used during the COVID-19 pandemic to mini-
16 mize the threat of wildfire on National Forest
17 System lands and public lands; and

18 (C) slow the spread of COVID-19 between
19 firefighters and emergency response teams; and

20 (2) the recommendations of the Secretaries con-
21 cerned with respect to the Federal support necessary
22 to carry out the activities described in paragraph
23 (1).

24 (b) SECOND REPORT.—Not later than December 31,
25 2020, the Secretaries concerned shall jointly submit to
26 Congress a report on—

1 (1) the activities and recommendations de-
2 scribed in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a);
3 and

4 (2) the outcomes of the forest and wildfire man-
5 agement in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and
6 the recommendations of the Secretaries with respect
7 to such outcomes.

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

10 (1) the Secretary of Agriculture, with respect to
11 National Forest System lands; and

12 (2) the Secretary of the Interior, with respect
13 to public lands.

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