

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 3396

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 18 (legislative day, DECEMBER 16), 2024

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and  
Governmental Affairs

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## AN ACT

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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Fire Department Re-  
3 payment Act of 2023”.

4 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO CERTAIN FIRE SUP-**  
5 **PPRESSION COST SHARE AGREEMENTS.**

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

9 (1) establish standard operating procedures re-  
10 lating to payment timelines for fire suppression cost  
11 share agreements established under the Act of May  
12 27, 1955 (42 U.S.C. 1856a) (commonly known as  
13 the “Reciprocal Fire Protection Act”); and

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

16 (A) review each such agreement; and

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

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

1 plicable to the entity subject to such fire suppression cost  
2 share agreement.

3 (c) PAYMENTS PURSUANT TO COST SHARE AGREE-  
4 MENTS.—With respect to payments made pursuant to fire  
5 suppression cost share agreements, the standard operating  
6 procedures required under subsection (a)(1) shall require  
7 that the Federal paying entity reimburse a local fire de-  
8 partment if such fire department submits an invoice in  
9 accordance with cost settlement procedures.

10 (d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
11 gress that the Secretaries should carry out reciprocal fire  
12 suppression cost share agreement repayments to local fire  
13 suppression organizations as soon as practicable after fire  
14 suppression occurs but not later than 1 year after fire sup-  
15 pression occurs.

16 (e) SECRETARIES DEFINED.—In this section, the  
17 term “Secretaries” means—

- 18 (1) the Secretary of Agriculture;  
19 (2) the Secretary of the Interior;  
20 (3) the Secretary of Homeland Security; and

1 (4) the Secretary of Defense.

Passed the House of Representatives December 17,  
2024.

Attest: KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,  
*Clerk.*