

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 6618

AN ACT

To require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to conduct a study on drone incursions on wild-fire suppression, 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 “Wildfire Aerial Re-
3 sponse Safety Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. STUDY ON DRONE INCURSIONS ON WILDFIRE SUP-**
5 **PRESSION.**

6 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) COUNTER-UASSYSTEM; UNMANNED AIR-
8 CRAFT SYSTEM.—The terms “counter-UAS system”
9 and “unmanned aircraft system” have the meanings
10 given such terms in section 44801 of title 49, United
11 States Code.

12 (2) UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM INCUR-
13 SION.—The term “unmanned aircraft system incur-
14 sion” means the operation of an unmanned aircraft
15 system within any airspace for which the Adminis-
16 trator of the Federal Aviation Administration has
17 issued a temporary flight restriction because of a
18 wildfire.

19 (b) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Administrator of the
20 Federal Aviation Administration, in consultation with the
21 Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture,
22 acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, shall con-
23 duct a study on the effects of unmanned aircraft system
24 incursions on wildfire suppression with respect to land
25 managed by the Department of the Interior or the Depart-
26 ment of Agriculture.

1 (c) STUDY CONTENTS.—In conducting the study re-
2 quired under subsection (b), the Administrator shall—

3 (1) determine, for each of the 5 most recent
4 calendar years—

5 (A) the number of occurrences in which a
6 unmanned aircraft system incursion has inter-
7 fered with wildfire suppression; and

8 (B) the estimated effect of each occurrence
9 described in subparagraph (A) on—

10 (i) the length of time required to
11 achieve complete suppression;

12 (ii) any associated delay in the field-
13 ing of aerial firefighting response units;
14 and

15 (iii) the amounts expended by the
16 Federal Government; and

17 (2) evaluate the feasibility and effectiveness
18 of—

19 (A) the dissemination of educational mate-
20 rials relating to the effects of unmanned air-
21 craft system incursions on wildfire suppression
22 operations; and

23 (B) the deployment of approved counter-
24 UAS systems by authorized entities as a means

1 to detect, mitigate, and prevent unmanned air-
2 craft system incursions during such operations.

3 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
4 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall sub-
5 mit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources,
6 the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on
7 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and
8 the Committee on Natural Resources, the Committee on
9 Appropriations, and the Committee on Transportation and
10 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report
11 describing—

12 (1) the findings of the study required under
13 subsection (b); and

14 (2) any recommendations relating to those find-
15 ings.

Passed the House of Representatives March 24,
2026.

Attest:

Clerk.

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