

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9998

To direct the Secretary of Defense to enter into an interagency memorandum of understanding for coordination on research and technology priorities relating to fire science, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 30, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN (for herself and Mr. LAWLER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Science, Space, and Technology, 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 direct the Secretary of Defense to enter into an interagency memorandum of understanding for coordination on research and technology priorities relating to fire science, 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 Research Co-
5 ordination Act of 2026”.

1 **SEC. 2. INTERAGENCY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**
2 **FOR COORDINATION ON RESEARCH AND**
3 **TECHNOLOGY PRIORITIES RELATING TO**
4 **FIRE SCIENCE.**

5 (a) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.—Not later
6 than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
7 the Secretary of Defense shall enter into a joint memo-
8 randum of understanding with the Secretary of Agri-
9 culture (acting through the Chief of the Forest Service)
10 and the Secretary of Interior, to—

11 (1) identify joint fire science research and tech-
12 nology priorities, including mitigation, ecological re-
13 silience, fire and smoke modeling, response, and
14 post-fire recovery, that align with—

15 (A) the Strategic Environmental Research
16 and Development Program and the Environ-
17 mental Security Technology Certification Pro-
18 gram of the Department of Defense; and

19 (B) the Joint Fire Science Program of the
20 Department of Agriculture and the Department
21 of the Interior; and

22 (2) direct research coordination between such
23 programs with respect to the joint priorities identi-
24 fied pursuant to paragraph (1).

25 (b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date
26 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense

1 shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the
2 House of Representatives and the Senate a report on the
3 actions taken by the Secretary to implement subsection
4 (a).

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