

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2039

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Homeland Security to carry out a quadrennial fire review, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 11, 2025

Mr. GALLEGO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Homeland Security to carry out a quadrennial fire review, 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 Risk Evalua-
5 tion Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that—

1 (1) wildfire management is a complex, multi-ju-
2 risdictional issue that requires a whole-of-govern-
3 ment approach before, during, and after a fire;

4 (2) wildfires spread quickly and may invoke
5 various Federal, State, Tribal, and local jurisdictions
6 simultaneously;

7 (3) effective wildfire management requires
8 interagency, cross-boundary, strategic, and holistic
9 solutions;

10 (4) relevant Federal, State, Tribal, and local
11 governments should be included in any planning, de-
12 cision-making, or response activities with respect to
13 wildfire management;

14 (5) a purpose of a quadrennial fire review is—

15 (A) to forecast conditions that may present
16 the greatest challenges for wildland fire man-
17 agement throughout the 20-year period imme-
18 diately following such review; and

19 (B) to inform the development of long-
20 term, strategic actions to address such chal-
21 lenges;

22 (6) the report of the Secretary of Agriculture
23 and the Secretary of the Interior entitled “The Na-
24 tional Strategy: the Final Phase in the Development
25 of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management

Strategy” (April 2014), as updated by the report entitled “National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy Addendum Update” (January 2023), represents a strategic, collaborative effort to address wildfire management in all landscapes and using the best science available to make meaningful progress toward the 3 goals established in such report regarding—

(A) resilient landscapes;

(B) fire-adapted communities; and

(C) safe and effective wildfire response;

and

(7) the report of the Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission entitled “ON FIRE: The Report of the Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission” (September 2023) presents a consensus set of recommendations developed by 50 diverse experts and intended to result in improved outcomes for wildfire management in the United States.

SEC. 3. QUADRENNIAL FIRE REVIEW.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) QUALIFIED AGENCIES.—The term “qualified agencies” means—

1 (A) with respect to the Secretary of Agri-
 2 culture, the Forest Service;

3 (B) with respect to the Secretary of the In-
 4 terior, the Department of the Interior;

5 (C) with respect to the Secretary of Home-
 6 land Security, the Federal Emergency Manage-
 7 ment Agency and the United States Fire Ad-
 8 ministration; and

9 (D) such other entities as the Secretaries
 10 determine appropriate.

11 (2) RELEVANT COMMITTEES.—The term “rel-
 12 evant committees” means—

13 (A) the Committees on Energy and Nat-
 14 ural Resources, Homeland Security and Gov-
 15 ernmental Affairs, and Commerce, Science, and
 16 Transportation of the Senate; and

17 (B) the Committees on Natural Resources,
 18 Homeland Security, and Science, Space, and
 19 Technology of the House of Representatives.

20 (3) SECRETARIES.—The term “Secretaries”
 21 means the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of
 22 the Interior, and the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
 23 rity.

24 (b) QUADRENNIAL REVIEW.—The Secretaries, acting
 25 jointly through the qualified agencies, shall conduct a

1 quadrennial review of the comprehensive wildfire environ-
2 ment in the United States that includes—

3 (1) a quantitative analysis of changes to built
4 and natural environments since the most recent
5 quadrennial fire review and the impact of such
6 changes on pre-fire mitigation, wildfire incident re-
7 sponse, and proactive recovery from wildfire; and

8 (2) an analysis of the intersection between wild-
9 fire and public health, conducted in coordination
10 with the Administrator of the Environmental Protec-
11 tion Agency and the Secretary of Health and
12 Human Services, acting through the Centers for
13 Disease Control and Prevention.

14 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
15 of enactment of this Act, and every 4 years for the 20
16 years thereafter, the Secretaries shall jointly submit to the
17 relevant committees a report that contains—

18 (1) the results of the reviews conducted under
19 subsection (b) and specifies the administrative ac-
20 tions and outcomes that have occurred as a result of
21 such reviews;

22 (2) a summary of—

23 (A) the challenges relating to wildfire that
24 are anticipated during the 20-year period imme-
25 diately following the report; and

1 (B) the most significant long-term wildland
2 fire management challenges;

3 (3) recommendations regarding such Federal
4 legislation and administrative actions as the Secre-
5 taries determine necessary to address the results de-
6 scribed in paragraph (1) and the challenges de-
7 scribed in paragraph (2);

8 (4) an evaluation of any progress made to-
9 ward—

10 (A) achieving the 3 goals established in the
11 report of the Secretary of Agriculture and the
12 Secretary of the Interior entitled “The National
13 Strategy: the Final Phase in the Development
14 of the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Man-
15 agement Strategy” (April 2014), as updated by
16 the report entitled “National Cohesive Wildland
17 Fire Management Strategy Addendum Update”
18 (January 2023); and

19 (B) implementing recommendations set
20 forth in the report of the Wildland Fire Mitiga-
21 tion and Management Commission entitled
22 “ON FIRE: The Report of the Wildland Fire
23 Mitigation and Management Commission” (Sep-
24 tember 2023); and

1 (5) projected future scenarios to highlight areas
2 of consideration for realignment of programs, strate-
3 gies, capabilities, and the workforce that will assist
4 the Secretaries in addressing the challenges de-
5 scribed in paragraph (2).

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