

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1311

To amend title 10, United States Code, to support the Federal Excess Personal Property program of the Forest Service by making it a priority of the Department of Defense to transfer to the Forest Service excess personal property of the Department that is suitable to be loaned under the program to rural fire departments.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 18, 2003

Mr. ROSS (for himself, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. GOODE, Mr. CARSON of Oklahoma, Mr. FROST, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. BASS, Mr. LATOURETTE, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. MATHE-SON, Mr. FALCOMAVAEGA, Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. TURNER of Texas, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. ANDREWS, and Mr. NEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, 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 amend title 10, United States Code, to support the Federal Excess Personal Property program of the Forest Service by making it a priority of the Department of Defense to transfer to the Forest Service excess personal property of the Department that is suitable to be loaned under the program to rural fire departments.

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 “Rural Fire Department  
3 Equipment Priority Act of 2003”.

4 **SEC. 2. TRANSFER OF EXCESS DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**  
5 **PERSONAL PROPERTY TO SUPPORT FOREST**  
6 **SERVICE FEDERAL EXCESS PERSONAL PROP-**  
7 **ERTY PROGRAM.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2576b of title 10, United  
9 States Code, is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “Subject” and  
11 inserting “Notwithstanding any other provision of  
12 law and subject”;

13 (2) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-  
14 section (e); and

15 (3) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-  
16 lowing new subsection:

17 “(d) PRIORITY FOR RURAL FIREFIGHTING AGEN-  
18 CIES.—(1) The Secretary of Defense shall enter into an  
19 agreement with the Secretary of Agriculture to use the  
20 existing property disposal program of the Forest Service,  
21 known as the Federal Excess Personal Property Program,  
22 to facilitate the reutilization of Department of Defense  
23 personal property described in subsection (a) by fire-  
24 fighting agencies in rural areas.

25 “(2) The transfer of Department of Defense personal  
26 property described in subsection (a) to the Forest Service

1 for reutilization by firefighting agencies in rural areas  
2 shall be afforded a property disposal priority at least equal  
3 to the priority given the military departments and other  
4 entities within the Department of Defense.”.

5 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—(1) The heading for  
6 such section is amended to read as follows:

7 **“§2576b. Excess personal property: reutilization to**  
8 **assist firefighting agencies ”.**

9 (2) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter  
10 153 of such title is amended by striking the item relating  
11 to section 2576b and inserting the following new item:

“2576b. Excess personal property: reutilization to assist firefighting agencies.”.

○