

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6094

To direct the establishment of a public-private wildfire technology deployment and demonstration partnership, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 18, 2025

Mrs. KIM (for herself and Mr. CROW) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on 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 establishment of a public-private wildfire technology deployment and demonstration partnership, 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 “Fire Innovation Unit
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PUBLIC-PRIVATE WILDFIRE TECHNOLOGY DEPLOY-**
7 **MENT AND DEMONSTRATION PARTNERSHIP.**

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COVERED AGENCY.—The term “covered agency” means—

(A) each Federal land management agency (as defined in section 802 of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (16 U.S.C. 6801));

(B) the Department of Defense;

(C) the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

(D) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;

(E) the Federal Emergency Management Agency;

(F) the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

(G) the United States Fire Administration;

(H) the General Services Administration;

(I) a State, Tribal, county, or municipal fire department, fire district, land management agency, natural resources agency, or equivalent agency operating through the United States Fire Administration or pursuant to an agreement with a Federal agency; and

(J) any other Federal agency involved in wildfire response.

1 (2) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered en-
2 tity” means—

3 (A) a private entity;

4 (B) a nonprofit organization; and

5 (C) an institution of higher education (as
6 defined in section 101 of the Higher Education
7 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)).

8 (3) PILOT PROGRAM.—The term “Pilot Pro-
9 gram” means the deployment and demonstration
10 pilot program established under subsection (b).

11 (4) RELEVANT COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—
12 The term “relevant committees of Congress”
13 means—

14 (A) in the Senate—

15 (i) the Committee on Agriculture, Nu-
16 trition, and Forestry;

17 (ii) the Committee on Energy and
18 Natural Resources;

19 (iii) the Committee on Indian Affairs;

20 (iv) the Committee on Homeland Se-
21 curity and Governmental Affairs; and

22 (v) the Committee on Commerce,
23 Science, and Transportation; and

24 (B) in the House of Representatives—

25 (i) the Committee on Agriculture;

1 (ii) the Committee on Natural Re-
2 sources; and

3 (iii) the Committee on Science, Space,
4 and Technology.

5 (5) SECRETARIES.—The term “Secretaries”
6 means the Secretary of Agriculture and the Sec-
7 retary of the Interior, acting jointly.

8 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 1 year after
9 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretaries shall
10 establish a deployment and demonstration pilot program
11 for new and innovative wildfire prevention, detection, com-
12 munication, response, and mitigation technologies.

13 (c) FUNCTIONS.—In carrying out the Pilot Program,
14 the Secretaries shall—

15 (1) consult with the National Wildfire Coordi-
16 nating Group;

17 (2) in consultation with the heads of the cov-
18 ered agencies, identify and advance the demonstra-
19 tion and deployment of key technology priority
20 areas, including for mature and commercially avail-
21 able technologies, with respect to the deployment of
22 wildfire prevention, detection, communication, and
23 mitigation technologies, including—

1 (A) innovations in hazardous fuels reduc-
2 tion activities or treatments, including the use
3 of prescribed or cultural fire;

4 (B) spatial planning for unplanned human-
5 caused ignitions;

6 (C) wildfire modeling and effectiveness al-
7 gorithms;

8 (D) dispatch communications;

9 (E) remote sensing, detection, and track-
10 ing;

11 (F) safety equipment;

12 (G) common operating pictures or oper-
13 ational dashboards;

14 (H) interoperable commercial data;

15 (I) autonomous suppression systems;

16 (J) grid resilience;

17 (K) community resilience and home hard-
18 ening; and

19 (L) prioritization and decision support
20 tools;

21 (3) connect each covered entity selected to par-
22 ticipate in the Pilot Program with the appropriate
23 covered agency to coordinate real-time and on-the-
24 ground testing of technology during wildfire mitiga-
25 tion activities and training;

1 (4) define clear criteria for evaluating the suc-
2 cess of technologies (including mature and commer-
3 cially available technologies) demonstrated under the
4 Pilot Program, focusing on effectiveness, scalability,
5 and cost-efficiency; and

6 (5) coordinate with covered agencies to ensure
7 the efficient deployment of scaled technologies, in-
8 cluding through expanded public-private partner-
9 ships, multiagency contracting for procurement, and
10 authorization of covered agency staff with techno-
11 logical procurement expertise to assist other covered
12 agencies in need of that expertise.

13 (d) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to participate in
14 the Pilot Program, a covered entity shall submit to the
15 Secretaries an application at such time, in such manner,
16 and containing such information as the Secretaries may
17 require, including a proposal to demonstrate technologies
18 specific to key technology priority areas identified under
19 subsection (c)(2).

20 (e) EXISTING PARTNERSHIPS.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—A covered agency may sub-
22 mit a statement to the Secretaries describing the ef-
23 fectiveness, scalability, and cost-efficiency of an ex-
24 isting partnership, pilot project, or contract a cov-

1 ered entity providing a technology described in sub-
2 section (c)(2).

3 (2) SUCCESSFULNESS.—The Secretaries may
4 deem a technology described in a statement sub-
5 mitted under paragraph (1) to be a successful tech-
6 nology for purposes of this section.

7 (f) OUTREACH.—The Secretaries, in coordination
8 with the heads of the covered agencies, shall make publicly
9 available the key technology priority areas identified under
10 subsection (c)(2) and invite covered entities to apply under
11 subsection (d) to deploy and demonstrate technologies to
12 address those priority areas.

13 (g) REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later
14 than 180 days after the date of establishment of the Pilot
15 Program, and annually thereafter for the duration of the
16 Pilot Program, the Secretaries shall submit to the relevant
17 committees of Congress a report that includes the fol-
18 lowing with respect to the Pilot Program:

19 (1) A brief description of potential technologies
20 deployed and demonstrated.

21 (2) An estimate of the cost of acquiring each
22 such technology and applying the technology at
23 scale.

24 (3) Outreach efforts by covered agencies to cov-
25 ered entities developing wildfire technologies.

1 (4) Assessments of, and recommendations relat-
2 ing to, new technologies with potential adoption and
3 application at-scale in the wildfire prevention, detec-
4 tion, communication, and mitigation efforts of Fed-
5 eral land management agencies (as defined in sec-
6 tion 802 of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhance-
7 ment Act (16 U.S.C. 6801)).

8 (5) A description of the relationship and coordi-
9 nation between the Pilot Program and the activities
10 of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Adminis-
11 tration, including the Fire Weather Testbed.

12 (6) Barriers and solutions for procurement of
13 technologies by covered agencies.

14 (h) SUNSET.—The Pilot Program terminates on the
15 date that is 7 years after the date of enactment of this
16 Act.

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