

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 441

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to develop a plan to reorganize Federal wildland fire response, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 6 (legislative day, FEBRUARY 5), 2025

Mr. SHEEHY (for himself and Mr. PADILLA) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to develop a plan to reorganize Federal wildland fire response, 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 “Fit for Purpose Wild-
5 fire Readiness Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL WILDLAND FIRE RESPONSE REORGANIZA-**
7 **TION.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture and
9 the Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this Act as

1 the “Secretaries”) shall jointly develop a plan to consoli-
2 date the authorities of the Secretaries relating to Federal
3 wildland fire preparedness, suppression, and recovery ef-
4 forts under an agency of the Department of the Interior,
5 to be known as the “National Wildland Firefighting Serv-
6 ice”.

7 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—The plan developed under sub-
8 section (a) shall include—

9 (1) a budget for the National Wildland Fire-
10 fighting Service;

11 (2) a description of the qualifications required
12 for an individual to be appointed to be the Director
13 of the National Wildland Firefighting Service, who
14 shall be appointed by the President, by and with the
15 advice and consent of the Senate; and

16 (3) a description of the resources and authori-
17 ties necessary to consolidate Federal wildland fire
18 response efforts of the Secretaries in the National
19 Wildland Firefighting Service.

20 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
21 of enactment of this Act, the Secretaries shall jointly sub-
22 mit a report describing the plan developed under sub-
23 section (a) to—

24 (1) the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-
25 sources of the Senate;

1 (2) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition,
2 and Forestry of the Senate;

3 (3) the Committee on Natural Resources of the
4 House of Representatives; and

5 (4) the Committee on Agriculture of the House
6 of Representatives.

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