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TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 524. Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1323, to express the sense of the Senate on shared sacrifice in resolving the budget deficit; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. __. SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING PROTECTING SMALL BUSINESS FROM ADDITIONAL TAX BURDENS.

It is the sense of the Senate that small businesses, as defined by the Small Business Administration, should be exempt from any net tax increase that is proposed or included in legislation that raises the statutory borrowing authority of the United States.

SA 525. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1323, to express the sense of the Senate on shared sacrifice in resolving the budget deficit; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

TITLE __—REDUCTION OF UNNECESSARY SPENDING

SECTION __. 1. SHORT TITLE AND PURPOSES.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This title may be cited as the “Reduce Unnecessary Spending Act of 2011”.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of this title is to create an optional fast-track procedure the President may use when submitting rescission requests, which would lead to an up-or-down vote by Congress on the President’s package of rescissions, without amendment.

SEC. __. 2. RESCISSIONS OF FUNDING.

The Impoundment Control Act of 1974 is amended by striking part C and inserting the following:

“PART C—EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED RESCISSIONS

“SEC. 1021. APPLICABILITY AND DISCLAIMER.

“The rules, procedures, requirements, and definitions in this part apply only to executive and legislative actions explicitly taken under this part. They do not apply to actions taken under part B or to other executive and legislative actions not taken under this part.

“SEC. 1022. DEFINITIONS.

“In this part:

“(1) The terms ‘appropriations Act’, ‘budget authority’, and ‘new budget authority’ have the same meanings as in section 3 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

“(2) The terms ‘account’, ‘current year’, ‘CBO’, and ‘OMB’ have the same meanings as in section 250 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 as in effect on September 30, 2002.

“(3) The term ‘days of session’ shall be calculated by excluding weekends and national holidays. Any day during which a chamber of Congress is not in session shall not be counted as a day of session of that chamber. Any day during which neither chamber is in session shall not be counted as a day of session of Congress.

“(4) The term ‘entitlement law’ means the statutory mandate or requirement of the

United States to incur a financial obligation unless that obligation is explicitly conditioned on the appropriation in subsequent legislation of sufficient funds for that purpose, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

“(5) The term ‘funding’ refers to new budget authority and obligation limits except to the extent that the funding is provided for entitlement law.

“(6) The term ‘rescind’ means to eliminate or reduce the amount of enacted funding.

“(7) The terms ‘withhold’ and ‘withholding’ apply to any executive action or inaction that precludes the obligation of funding at a time when it would otherwise have been available to an agency for obligation. The terms do not include administrative or preparatory actions undertaken prior to obligation in the normal course of implementing budget laws.

“SEC. 1023. TIMING AND PACKAGING OF RESCISSION REQUESTS.

“(a) **TIMING.**—If the President proposes that Congress rescind funding under the procedures in this part, OMB shall transmit a message to Congress containing the information specified in section 1024, and the message transmitting the proposal shall be sent to Congress not later than 45 calendar days after the date of enactment of the funding.

“(b) **PACKAGING AND TRANSMITTAL OF REQUESTED RESCISSIONS.**—Except as provided in subsection (c), for each piece of legislation that provides funding, the President shall request at most 1 package of rescissions and the rescissions in that package shall apply only to funding contained in that legislation. OMB shall deliver each message requesting a package of rescissions to the Secretary of the Senate if the Senate is not in session and to the Clerk of the House of Representatives if the House is not in session. OMB shall make a copy of the transmittal message publicly available, and shall publish in the Federal Register a notice of the message and information on how it can be obtained.

“(c) **SPECIAL PACKAGING RULES.**—After enactment of—

“(1) a joint resolution making continuing appropriations;

“(2) a supplemental appropriations bill; or

“(3) an omnibus appropriations bill;

covering some or all of the activities customarily funded in more than 1 regular appropriations bill, the President may propose as many as 2 packages rescinding funding contained in that legislation, each within the 45-day period specified in subsection (a). OMB shall not include the same rescission in both packages, and, if the President requests the rescission of more than one discrete amount of funding under the jurisdiction of a single subcommittee, OMB shall include each of those discrete amounts in the same package.

“SEC. 1024. REQUESTS TO RESCIND FUNDING.

“For each request to rescind funding under this part, the transmittal message shall—

“(1) specify—

“(A) the dollar amount to be rescinded;

“(B) the agency, bureau, and account from which the rescission shall occur;

“(C) the program, project, or activity within the account (if applicable) from which the rescission shall occur;

“(D) the amount of funding, if any, that would remain for the account, program, project, or activity if the rescission request is enacted; and

“(E) the reasons the President requests the rescission;

“(2) designate each separate rescission request by number; and

“(3) include proposed legislative language to accomplish the requested rescissions which may not include—

“(A) any changes in existing law, other than the rescission of funding; or

“(B) any supplemental appropriations, transfers, or reprogrammings.

“SEC. 1025. GRANTS OF AND LIMITATIONS ON PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORITY.

“(a) **PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORITY TO WITHHOLD FUNDING.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law and if the President proposes a rescission of funding under this part, OMB may, subject to the time limits provided in subsection (c), temporarily withhold that funding from obligation.

“(b) **EXPEDITED PROCEDURES AVAILABLE ONLY ONCE PER BILL.**—The President may not invoke the procedures of this part, or the authority to withhold funding granted by subsection (a), on more than 1 occasion for any Act providing funding.

“(c) **TIME LIMITS.**—OMB shall make available for obligation any funding withheld under subsection (a) on the earliest of—

“(1) the day on which the President determines that the continued withholding or reduction no longer advances the purpose of legislative consideration of the rescission request;

“(2) starting from the day on which OMB transmitted a message to Congress requesting the rescission of funding, 25 calendar days in which the House of Representatives has been in session or 25 calendar days in which the Senate has been in session, whichever occurs second; or

“(3) the last day after which the obligation of the funding in question can no longer be fully accomplished in a prudent manner before its expiration.

“(d) **DEFICIT REDUCTION.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Funds that are rescinded under this part shall be dedicated only to reducing the deficit or increasing the surplus.

“(2) **ADJUSTMENT OF LEVELS IN THE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET.**—Not later than 5 days after the date of enactment of an approval bill as provided under this part, the chairs of the Committees on the Budget of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall revise allocations and aggregates and other appropriate levels under the appropriate concurrent resolution on the budget to reflect the repeal or cancellation, and the applicable committees shall report revised suballocations pursuant to section 302(b), as appropriate.

“SEC. 1026. CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF RESCISSION REQUESTS.

“(a) **PREPARATION OF LEGISLATION TO CONSIDER A PACKAGE OF EXPEDITED RESCISSION REQUESTS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—If the House of Representatives receives a package of expedited rescission requests, the Clerk shall prepare a House bill that only rescinds the amounts requested which shall read as follows:

“‘There are enacted the rescissions numbered [insert number or numbers] as set forth in the Presidential message of [insert date] transmitted under part C of the Impoundment Control Act of 1974 as amended.’

“(2) **EXCLUSION PROCEDURE.**—The Clerk shall include in the bill each numbered rescission request listed in the Presidential package in question, except that the Clerk shall omit a numbered rescission request if the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the House, after consulting with the Chairman of the Committee on the Budget of the Senate, CBO, GAO, and the House and Senate committees that have jurisdiction over the funding, determines that the numbered rescission does not refer to funding or includes matter not permitted under a request to rescind funding.

“(b) **INTRODUCTION AND REFERRAL OF LEGISLATION TO ENACT A PACKAGE OF EXPEDITED**

RESCISSIONS.—The majority leader or the minority leader of the House or Representatives, or a designee, shall (by request) introduce each bill prepared under subsection (a) not later than 4 days of session of the House after its transmittal, or, if no such bill is introduced within that period, any member of the House may introduce the required bill in the required form on the fifth or sixth day of session of the House after its transmittal. If such an expedited rescission bill is introduced in accordance with the preceding sentence, it shall be referred to the House committee of jurisdiction. A copy of the introduced House bill shall be transmitted to the Secretary of the Senate, who shall provide it to the Senate committee of jurisdiction.

“(c) **HOUSE REPORT AND CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION TO ENACT A PACKAGE OF EXPEDITED RESCISSIONS.**—The House committee of jurisdiction shall report without amendment the bill referred to it under subsection (b) not more than 5 days of session of the House after the referral. The committee may order the bill reported favorably, unfavorably, or without recommendation. If the committee has not reported the bill by the end of the 5-day period, the committee shall be automatically discharged from further consideration of the bill and it shall be placed on the appropriate calendar.

“(d) **HOUSE MOTION TO PROCEED.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—After a bill to enact an expedited rescission package has been reported or the committee of jurisdiction has been discharged under subsection (c), it shall be in order to move to proceed to consider the bill in the House. A Member who wishes to move to proceed to consideration of the bill shall announce that fact, and the motion to proceed shall be in order only during a time designated by the Speaker within the legislative schedule for the next calendar day of legislative session or the one immediately following it.

“(2) **FAILURE TO SET TIME.**—If the Speaker does not designate a time under paragraph (1), 3 or more calendar days of legislative session after the bill has been reported or discharged, it shall be in order for any Member to move to proceed to consider the bill.

“(3) **PROCEDURE.**—A motion to proceed under this subsection shall not be in order after the House has disposed of a prior motion to proceed with respect to that package of expedited rescissions. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to proceed, without intervening motion. A motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion to proceed has been disposed of shall not be in order.

“(4) **REMOVAL FROM CALENDAR.**—If 5 calendar days of legislative session have passed since the bill was reported or discharged under this subsection and no Member has made a motion to proceed, the bill shall be removed from the calendar.

“(e) **HOUSE CONSIDERATION.**—

“(1) **CONSIDERED AS READ.**—A bill consisting of a package of rescissions under this part shall be considered as read.

“(2) **POINTS OF ORDER.**—All points of order against the bill are waived, except that a point of order may be made that 1 or more numbered rescissions included in the bill would enact language containing matter not requested by the President or not permitted under this part as part of that package. If the Presiding Officer sustains such a point of order, the numbered rescission or rescissions that would enact such language are deemed to be automatically stripped from the bill and consideration proceeds on the bill as modified.

“(3) **PREVIOUS QUESTION.**—The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill to its passage without intervening motion, except that 4 hours of debate equally

divided and controlled by a proponent and an opponent are allowed, as well as 1 motion to further limit debate on the bill.

“(4) **MOTION TO RECONSIDER.**—A motion to reconsider the vote on passage of the bill shall not be in order.

“(f) **SENATE CONSIDERATION.**—

“(1) **REFERRAL.**—If the House of Representatives approves a House bill enacting a package of rescissions, that bill as passed by the House shall be sent to the Senate and referred to the Senate committee of jurisdiction.

“(2) **COMMITTEE ACTION.**—The committee of jurisdiction shall report without amendment the bill referred to it under this subsection not later than 3 days of session of the Senate after the referral. The committee may order the bill reported favorably, unfavorably, or without recommendation.

“(3) **DISCHARGE.**—If the committee has not reported the bill by the end of the 3-day period, the committee shall be automatically discharged from further consideration of the bill and it shall be placed on the appropriate calendar.

“(4) **MOTION TO PROCEED.**—On the following day and for 3 subsequent calendar days in which the Senate is in session, it shall be in order for any Senator to move to proceed to consider the bill in the Senate. Upon such a motion being made, it shall be deemed to have been agreed to and the motion to reconsider shall be deemed to have been laid on the table.

“(5) **DEBATE.**—Debate on the bill in the Senate under this subsection, and all debatable motions and appeals in connection therewith, shall not exceed 10 hours, equally divided and controlled in the usual form. Debate in the Senate on any debatable motion or appeal in connection with such a bill shall be limited to not more than 1 hour, to be equally divided and controlled in the usual form. A motion to further limit debate on such a bill is not debatable.

“(6) **MOTIONS NOT IN ORDER.**—A motion to amend such a bill or strike a provision from it is not in order. A motion to recommit such a bill is not in order.

“(g) **SENATE POINT OF ORDER.**—It shall not be in order under this part for the Senate to consider a bill approved by the House enacting a package of rescissions under this part if any numbered rescission in the bill would enact matter not requested by the President or not permitted under this Act as part of that package. If a point of order under this subsection is sustained, the bill may not be considered under this part.”

SEC. 3. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—Section 1(b) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 is amended by striking the matter for part C of title X and inserting the following:

“PART C—EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSED RESCISSIONS

“Sec. 1021. Applicability and disclaimer.

“Sec. 1022. Definitions.

“Sec. 1023. Timing and packaging of rescission requests.

“Sec. 1024. Requests to rescind funding.

“Sec. 1025. Grants of and limitations on presidential authority.

“Sec. 1026. Congressional consideration of rescission requests.”

(b) **TEMPORARY WITHHOLDING.**—Section 1013(c) of the Impoundment Control Act of 1974 is amended by striking “section 1012” and inserting “section 1012 or section 1025”.

(c) **RULEMAKING.**—

(1) 904(a).—Section 904(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by striking “and 1017” and inserting “1017, and 1026”.

(2) 904(d)(1).—Section 904(d)(1) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 is amended by striking “1017” and inserting “1017 or 1026”.

SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS TO PART A OF THE IMPOUNDMENT CONTROL ACT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Part A of the Impoundment Control Act of 1974 is amended by inserting at the end the following:

“SEC. 1002. SEVERABILITY.

“If the judicial branch of the United States finally determines that 1 or more of the provisions of parts B or C violate the Constitution of the United States, the remaining provisions of those parts shall continue in effect.”

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—Section 1(b) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 is amended by inserting at the end of the matter for part A of title X the following:

“Sec. 1002. Severability.”

SEC. 5. EXPIRATION.

Part C of the Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (as amended by this Act) shall expire on December 31, 2015.

SA 526. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. RUBIO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1323, to express the sense of the Senate on shared sacrifice in resolving the budget deficit; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

TITLE II—DEBT BUY-DOWN

SECTION 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Debt Buy-Down Act”.

SEC. 202. DESIGNATION OF AMOUNTS FOR REDUCTION OF PUBLIC DEBT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subchapter A of chapter 61 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to returns and records) is amended by adding at the end the following new part:

“PART IX—DESIGNATION FOR REDUCTION OF PUBLIC DEBT

“Sec. 6097. Designation.

“SEC. 6097. DESIGNATION.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Every individual with adjusted income tax liability for any taxable year may designate that a portion of such liability (not to exceed 10 percent thereof) shall be used to reduce the public debt.

“(b) **MANNER AND TIME OF DESIGNATION.**—A designation under subsection (a) may be made with respect to any taxable year only at the time of filing the return of tax imposed by chapter 1 for the taxable year. The designation shall be made on the first page of the return or on the page bearing the taxpayer’s signature.

“(c) **ADJUSTED INCOME TAX LIABILITY.**—For purposes of this section, the adjusted income tax liability of an individual for any taxable year is the income tax liability of the individual for the taxable year determined under section 6096(b), reduced by any amount designated under section 6096(a).”

(b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The table of parts for such subchapter A is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“PART IX. DESIGNATION FOR REDUCTION OF PUBLIC DEBT”.

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 203. PUBLIC DEBT REDUCTION TRUST FUND.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Subchapter A of chapter 98 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to trust fund code) is amended by adding at the end the following section:

“SEC. 9511. PUBLIC DEBT REDUCTION TRUST FUND.

“(a) **CREATION OF TRUST FUND.**—There is established in the Treasury of the United

States a trust fund to be known as the 'Public Debt Reduction Trust Fund', consisting of any amount appropriated or credited to the Trust Fund as provided in this section or section 9602(b).

"(b) TRANSFERS TO TRUST FUND.—There are hereby appropriated to the Public Debt Reduction Trust Fund amounts equivalent to the amounts designated under section 6097 (relating to designation for public debt reduction).

"(c) EXPENDITURES.—Amounts in the Public Debt Reduction Trust Fund shall be used by the Secretary for purposes of paying at maturity, or to redeem or buy before maturity, any obligation of the Federal Government included in the public debt (other than an obligation held by the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund or the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund). Any obligation which is paid, redeemed, or bought with amounts from the Public Debt Reduction Trust Fund shall be canceled and retired and may not be re-issued."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for such subchapter is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"Sec. 9511. Public Debt Reduction Trust Fund."

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts received after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 204. TAXPAYER-GENERATED SEQUESTRATION OF FEDERAL SPENDING TO REDUCE THE PUBLIC DEBT.

(a) SEQUESTRATION TO REDUCE THE PUBLIC DEBT.—Part C of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 is amended by inserting after section 253 the following new section:

"SEC. 253A. SEQUESTRATION TO REDUCE THE PUBLIC DEBT.

"(a) SEQUESTRATION.—Notwithstanding sections 255 and 256, within 15 days after Congress adjourns to end a session, and on the same day as sequestration (if any) under sections 251, 252, and 253, and under section 5(b) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, but after any sequestration required by those sections, there shall be a sequestration equivalent to the estimated aggregate amount designated under section 6097 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for the last taxable year ending one year before the beginning of that session of Congress, as estimated by the Department of the Treasury on October 1 and as modified by the total of—

"(1) any amounts by which net discretionary spending is reduced by legislation below the discretionary spending limits enacted after the enactment of this section related to the fiscal year subject to the sequestration (or, in the absence of such limits, any net deficit change from the baseline amount calculated under section 257; and

"(2) the net deficit change that has resulted from all direct spending legislation enacted after the enactment of this section related to the fiscal year subject to the sequestration, as estimated by OMB.

If the reduction in spending under paragraphs (1) and (2) for a fiscal year is greater than the estimated aggregate amount designated under section 6097 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 respecting that fiscal year, then there shall be no sequestration under this section.

"(b) APPLICABILITY.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by paragraph (2), each account of the United States shall be reduced by a dollar amount calculated by multiplying the level of budgetary resources in that account at that time by the uniform percentage necessary to carry out subsection (a). All obligational au-

thority reduced under this section shall be done in a manner that makes such reductions permanent.

"(2) EXEMPT ACCOUNTS.—No order issued under this part may—

"(A) reduce benefits payable to the old-age and survivors insurance program established under title II of the Social Security Act;

"(B) reduce retired or retiree pay payable to a member or former member of the uniformed services; or

"(C) reduce payments for net interest (all of major functional category 900)."

(b) REPORTS.—Section 254 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end of the table the following new item:

"October 1 Department of Treasury report to Congress estimating amount of income tax designated pursuant to section 6097 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.";

(2) in subsection (c)(1), by inserting ", and sequestration to reduce the public debt," after "sequestration";

(3) in subsection (c), by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (6) and by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph:

"(5) REPORTS ON SEQUESTRATION TO REDUCE THE PUBLIC DEBT.—The preview reports shall set forth for the budget year estimates for each of the following:

"(A) The aggregate amount designated under section 6097 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for the last taxable year ending before the budget year.

"(B) The amount of reductions required under section 253A and the deficit remaining after those reductions have been made.

"(C) The sequestration percentage necessary to achieve the required reduction in accounts under section 253A(b)."; and

(4) in subsection (f), by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively, and by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph:

"(4) REPORTS ON SEQUESTRATION TO REDUCE THE PUBLIC DEBT.—The final reports shall contain all of the information contained in the public debt taxation designation report required on October 1."

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 250(a) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 253 the following new item:

"Sec. 253A. Sequestration to reduce the public debt."

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Notwithstanding section 275(b) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, the expiration date set forth in that section shall not apply to the amendments made by this section. The amendments made by this section shall cease to have any effect after the first fiscal year during which there is no public debt.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in open session on Thursday, July 14, 2011, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled "Lessons From the Field: Learning From What Works for Employment for Persons with Disabilities."

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Andrew Imperato at (202) 228-3453.

RECOGNIZING HEROIC EFFORTS OF FIREFIGHTERS

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to consideration of S. Res. 229.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 229) recognizing the heroic efforts of firefighters to contain numerous wildfires that have affected thousands of people throughout the United States.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate on this matter, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 229) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 229

Whereas every State in the United States has been affected by wildfire in 2011;

Whereas firefighters and residents have had to contend with extreme and erratic fire behavior and rapid rates of fire spread;

Whereas, as of June 12, 2011, more than 32,189 wildfires have burned more than 4,700,000 acres of land, which represents more acres burned than in all of 2010 and approximately 600,000 more acres than the 50-year average of total acres burned in the United States in an entire year;

Whereas, as of June 12, 2011—

(1) the Southwestern States have reported more than 1,600 fires that have burned more than 1,700,000 acres;

(2) the Southern States have reported more than 27,000 fires that have burned more than 2,400,000 acres;

(3) the Northern and Central Rocky Mountain States have reported 818 fires that have burned more than 250,000 acres;

(4) the State of California and Great Basin Region have reported more than 7,200 fires that have burned more than 21,000 acres;

(5) the Northwestern States and Alaska have reported more than 400 fires that have burned more than 260,000 acres; and

(6) the Eastern States have reported more than 3,500 fires that have burned more than 41,000 acres;

Whereas, as of June 29, 2011, firefighters and personnel from the Federal, State, and county levels have responded overwhelmingly to battle wildfires throughout the United States, filling more than 95,600 requests for firefighter crew members; and

Whereas the brave men and women who answered the calls for assistance have worked to minimize the displacement of thousands of residents and to protect against loss of life and property; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the heroic efforts of firefighters to contain wildfires and protect lives, homes, natural resources, and rural economies throughout the United States;