

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1134

Granting the consent and approval of Congress to an interstate forest fire protection compact.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 31, 1997

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Mr. BURNS, Mr. GORTON, and Mr. KEMPTHORNE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

Granting the consent and approval of Congress to an interstate forest fire protection compact.

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. CONSENT OF CONGRESS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The consent and approval of Con-
5 gress is given to an interstate forest fire protection com-
6 pact, as set out in subsection (b).

7 (b) COMPACT.—The compact reads substantially as
8 follows:

1 **“THE NORTHWEST WILDLAND**
2 **FIRE PROTECTION AGREEMENT**

3 “THIS AGREEMENT is entered into by and be-
4 tween the State, Provincial, and Territorial wildland fire
5 protection agencies signatory hereto, hereinafter referred
6 to as “Members”.

7 “FOR AND IN CONSIDERATION OF the follow-
8 ing terms and conditions, the Members agree:

9 **“Article I**

10 “1.1 The purpose of this Agreement is to pro-
11 mote effective prevention, presuppression and control of
12 forest fires in the Northwest wildland region of the United
13 States and adjacent areas of Canada (by the Members)
14 by providing mutual aid in prevention, presuppression and
15 control of wildland fires, and by establishing procedures
16 in operating plans that will facilitate such aid.

17 **“Article II**

18 “2.1 The agreement shall become effective for
19 those Members ratifying it whenever any two or more
20 Members, the States of Oregon, Washington, Alaska,
21 Idaho, Montana, or the Yukon Territory, or the Province
22 of British Columbia, or the Province of Alberta have rati-
23 fied it.

24 “2.2 Any State, Province, or Territory not men-
25 tioned in this Article which is contiguous to any Member

1 may become a party to this Agreement subject to unani-
2 mous approval of the Members.

3 **“Article III**

4 “3.1 The role of the Members is to determine
5 from time to time such methods, practices, circumstances
6 and conditions as may be found for enhancing the preven-
7 tion, presuppression, and control of forest fires in the area
8 comprising the Member’s territory; to coordinate the plans
9 and the work of the appropriate agencies of the Members;
10 and to coordinate the rendering of aid by the Members
11 to each other in fighting wildland fires.

12 “3.2 The Members may develop cooperative oper-
13 ating plans for the programs covered by this Agreement.
14 Operating plans shall include definition of terms, fiscal
15 procedures, personnel contacts, resources available, and
16 standards applicable to the program. Other sections may
17 be added as necessary.

18 **“Article IV**

19 “4.1 A majority of Members shall constitute a
20 quorum for the transaction of its general business. Mo-
21 tions of Members present shall be carried by a simple ma-
22 jority except as stated in Article II. Each Member will
23 have one vote on motions brought before them.

1 **SEC. 2. OTHER STATES.**

2 Without further submission of the compact, the con-
3 sent of Congress is given to any State to become a party
4 to it in accordance with its terms.

5 **SEC. 3. RIGHTS RESERVED.**

6 The right to alter, amend, or repeal this Act is ex-
7 pressly reserved.

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