

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3971

To provide for an independent investigation of Forest Service firefighter deaths that are caused by wildfire entrapment or burnover.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 14, 2002

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington (for himself, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Ms. DUNN of Washington, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. DICKS, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To provide for an independent investigation of Forest Service firefighter deaths that are caused by wildfire entrapment or burnover.

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. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE INSPECTOR**
4 **GENERAL INVESTIGATION OF FOREST SERV-**
5 **ICE FIREFIGHTER DEATHS.**

6 (a) INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION.—In the case of
7 each fatality of an officer or employee of the Forest Serv-
8 ice that occurs due to wildfire entrapment or burnover,
9 the Inspector General of the Department of Agriculture

1 shall conduct an investigation of the fatality. The inves-
2 tigation shall not rely on, and shall be completely inde-
3 pendent of, any investigation of the fatality that is con-
4 ducted by the Forest Service.

5 (b) SUBMISSION OF RESULTS.—As soon as possible
6 after completing an investigation under subsection (a), the
7 Inspector General of the Department of Agriculture shall
8 submit to Congress and the Secretary of Agriculture a re-
9 port containing the results of the investigation.

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