

Union Calendar No. 342

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4847

[Report No. 110-559]

To reauthorize the United States Fire Administration, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 19, 2007

Mr. MITCHELL (for himself and Mr. GINGREY) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Science and Technology

MARCH 31, 2008

Additional sponsors: Mr. PAYNE, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. WU, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. GORDON of Tennessee, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. COSTELLO, Mrs. BIGGERT, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. GERLACH, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. GALLEGLY, and Mr. MICHAUD

MARCH 31, 2008

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole
House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italics]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on December 19, 2007]

A BILL

To reauthorize the United States Fire Administration, 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 “United States Fire Ad-*
5 *ministration Reauthorization Act of 2008”.*

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 *Congress finds the following:*

8 (1) *The loss of life due to fire has dropped sig-*
9 *nificantly over the last 25 years in the United States.*
10 *However, the United States still has one of the highest*
11 *fire death rates in the industrialized world. In 2005*
12 *the National Fire Protection Association reported*
13 *3,675 civilian fire deaths, 17,925 civilian fire inju-*
14 *ries, and \$10,672,000,000 in direct losses due to fire.*

15 (2) *Every year, over 100 firefighters die in the*
16 *line of duty. The United States Fire Administration*
17 *should continue its leadership to help local fire agen-*
18 *cies dramatically reduce these fatalities.*

19 (3) *Members of the fire service community should*
20 *continue to work together to further the promotion of*
21 *national voluntary consensus standards that increase*
22 *firefighter safety.*

23 (4) *The United States Fire Administration pro-*
24 *vides crucial support to the Nation’s 30,300 fire de-*
25 *partments through training, emergency incident data*

1 *collection, fire awareness and education, and support*
2 *of research and development activities for fire preven-*
3 *tion, control, and suppression technologies.*

4 *(5) The collection of data on fire and other emer-*
5 *gency incidents is a vital tool both for policy makers*
6 *and emergency responders to identify and develop re-*
7 *sponses to emerging hazards. Improving the United*
8 *States Fire Administration's data collection capabili-*
9 *ties is essential for accurately tracking and respond-*
10 *ing to the magnitude and nature of the Nation's fire*
11 *problem.*

12 *(6) The research and development performed by*
13 *the National Institute of Standards and Technology,*
14 *the United States Fire Administration, other govern-*
15 *ment agencies, and non-governmental organizations*
16 *on fire technologies, techniques, and tools advance the*
17 *capabilities of the Nation's fire service to suppress*
18 *and prevent fires.*

19 *(7) The United States Fire Administration is*
20 *one of the strongest voices representing the Nation's*
21 *fire service within the Federal Government, and, as*
22 *such, it should have a prominent place within the De-*
23 *partment of Homeland Security.*

1 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR UNITED**
2 **STATES FIRE ADMINISTRATION.**

3 *Section 17(g)(1) of the Federal Fire Prevention and*
4 *Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2216(g)(1)) is amended—*

5 *(1) in subparagraph (C), by striking “and” after*
6 *the semicolon;*

7 *(2) in subparagraph (D), by striking the period*
8 *at the end and inserting a semicolon; and*

9 *(3) by adding after subparagraph (D) the fol-*
10 *lowing new subparagraphs:*

11 *“(E) \$70,000,000 for fiscal year 2009, of*
12 *which \$2,520,000 shall be used to carry out sec-*
13 *tion 8;*

14 *“(F) \$72,100,000 for fiscal year 2010, of*
15 *which \$2,595,600 shall be used to carry out sec-*
16 *tion 8;*

17 *“(G) \$74,263,000 for fiscal year 2011, of*
18 *which \$2,673,468 shall be used to carry out sec-*
19 *tion 8; and*

20 *“(H) \$76,490,890 for fiscal year 2012, of*
21 *which \$2,753,672 shall be used to carry out sec-*
22 *tion 8.”.*

1 **SEC. 4. NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY TRAINING PROGRAM**
2 **MODIFICATIONS AND REPORTS.**

3 (a) *AMENDMENTS TO FIRE ACADEMY TRAINING.*—*Sec-*
4 *tion 7(d)(1) of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act*
5 *of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2206(d)(1)) is amended—*

6 (1) *in subparagraph (H), by striking “terrorist-*
7 *caused national catastrophes” and inserting “ter-*
8 *rorist-caused and other national catastrophes”;*

9 (2) *in subparagraph (K), by striking “forest”*
10 *and inserting “wildland”;*

11 (3) *in subparagraph (M), by striking “response*
12 *tactics and” and inserting “response, tactics, and”;*

13 (4) *by redesignating subparagraphs (I) through*
14 *(N) as subparagraphs (M) through (R), respectively;*
15 *and*

16 (5) *by inserting after subparagraph (H) the fol-*
17 *lowing new subparagraphs:*

18 “(I) *response, tactics, and strategies for*
19 *fighting large-scale fires or multiple fires in a*
20 *general area that cross jurisdictional boundaries;*

21 “(J) *response, tactics, and strategies for*
22 *fighting fires occurring at the wildland-urban*
23 *interface;*

24 “(K) *response, tactics, and strategies for*
25 *fighting fires involving hazardous materials;*

1 “(L) advanced emergency medical services
2 training;”.

3 (b) *TRIENNIAL REPORTS.*—Section 7 of such Act (15
4 *U.S.C. 2206*) is amended by adding at the end the following
5 *new subsection:*

6 “(m) *TRIENNIAL REPORT.*—In the first annual report
7 filed pursuant to section 16 for which the deadline for filing
8 is after the expiration of the 18-month period that begins
9 on the date of the enactment of the United States Fire Ad-
10 ministration Reauthorization Act of 2008, and in every
11 third annual report thereafter, the Administrator shall in-
12 clude information about changes made to the Academy cur-
13 rriculum, including—

14 “(1) the basis for such changes, including a re-
15 view of the incorporation of lessons learned by emer-
16 gency response personnel after significant emergency
17 events and emergency preparedness exercises per-
18 formed under the National Exercise Program; and

19 “(2) the desired training outcome of all such
20 changes.”.

21 (c) *AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO ENTER*
22 *INTO CONTRACTS TO PROVIDE ON-SITE TRAINING*
23 *THROUGH CERTAIN ACCREDITED ORGANIZATIONS.*—Sec-
24 tion 7(f) of such Act (15 *U.S.C. 2206(f)*) is amended to read
25 *as follows:*

1 “(f) ASSISTANCE.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—*The Administrator is au-*
3 *thorized to provide assistance to State and local fire*
4 *service training programs through grants, contracts,*
5 *or otherwise.*

6 “(2) AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO CON-
7 *TRACTS TO PROVIDE ON-SITE TRAINING THROUGH*
8 *CERTAIN ACCREDITED ORGANIZATIONS.—*

9 “(A) IN GENERAL.—*The Administrator is*
10 *authorized to enter into a contract with one or*
11 *more nationally recognized organizations that*
12 *have established on-site training programs that*
13 *comply with national voluntary consensus stand-*
14 *ards for fire service personnel to facilitate the de-*
15 *livery of the education and training programs*
16 *outlined in subsection (d)(1) directly to fire serv-*
17 *ice personnel.*

18 “(B) RESTRICTIONS.—*The Administrator*
19 *shall not enter into a contract with such organi-*
20 *zation unless such organization—*

21 “(i) *operates a fire service training*
22 *program accredited by a nationally recog-*
23 *nized accreditation organization experi-*
24 *enced with accrediting such training; or*

1 “(ii) at the time the Administrator en-
2 ters into the contract, provides training
3 under such a program under a cooperative
4 agreement with a Federal agency.

5 “(3) *RESTRICTION ON USE OF FUNDS.*—The
6 amounts expended by the Administrator to carry out
7 this subsection in any fiscal year shall not exceed 4
8 per centum of the amount authorized to be appro-
9 priated in such fiscal year pursuant to section 17 of
10 this Act.”.

11 “(d) *INCIDENT COMMAND TRAINING COURSE FOR FIRES*
12 *AT PORTS REQUIRED.*—Not later than 2 years after the
13 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the
14 United States Fire Administration, in consultation with
15 the Superintendent of the National Academy for Fire Pre-
16 vention and Control, shall consolidate and integrate into
17 the current Academy curriculum a course on incident com-
18 mand training for fire service personnel for fighting fires
19 at United States ports and in marine environments, includ-
20 ing fires on the water and aboard vessels.

21 **SEC. 5. NATIONAL FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM UP-**
22 **GRADES.**

23 “(a) *INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM DATABASE.*—Sec-
24 tion 9 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of

1 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2208) is amended by adding at the end
 2 the following new subsection:

3 “(d) *NATIONAL FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM*
 4 *UPDATE*.—Of the amounts made available pursuant to sub-
 5 paragraphs (E), (F), and (G) of section 17(g)(1), the Ad-
 6 ministrator shall use no more than an aggregate amount
 7 of \$5,000,000 during the 3-year period consisting of fiscal
 8 years 2009, 2010, and 2011 to carry out activities necessary
 9 to update the National Fire Incident Reporting system to
 10 an Internet-based, real-time incident reporting database,
 11 including capital investment, contractor engagement, and
 12 user education.”.

13 (b) *TECHNICAL CORRECTION*.—Section 9(b)(2) of such
 14 Act (15 U.S.C. 2208(b)(2)) is amended by striking “assist
 15 State,” and inserting “assist Federal, State,”.

16 **SEC. 6. FIRE TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE AND RESEARCH**
 17 **DISSEMINATION.**

18 (a) *ASSISTANCE TO FIRE SERVICES FOR FIRE PRE-*
 19 *VENTION AND CONTROL IN WILDLAND-URBAN INTER-*
 20 *FACE*.—Section 8(d) of the Federal Fire Prevention and
 21 Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2207(d)) is amended—

22 (1) by striking “*RURAL ASSISTANCE*” in the
 23 heading and inserting “*RURAL AND WILDLAND-*
 24 *URBAN INTERFACE ASSISTANCE*”;

1 (2) by striking “The Administrator” and insert-
2 ing “(1) The Administrator”; and

3 (3) by adding at the end the following new para-
4 graph:

5 “(2) The Administrator is authorized to assist the Na-
6 tion’s fire services, directly or through contracts, grants, or
7 other forms of assistance, to sponsor and encourage research
8 into approaches, techniques, systems, and equipment to im-
9 prove fire prevention and control in the wildland-urban
10 interface.”.

11 (b) *TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH DISSEMINATION.*—Sec-
12 tion 8 of such Act (15 U.S.C. 2207) is amended by adding
13 at the end the following new subsection:

14 “(h) *RESEARCH DISSEMINATION.*—Beginning 1 year
15 after the date of the enactment of the United States Fire
16 Administration Reauthorization Act of 2008, the Adminis-
17 trator, in collaboration with the relevant departments and
18 agencies of the Federal Government, shall make available
19 to the public information about all ongoing and planned
20 fire-related research funded by the Administration during
21 fiscal year 2007 and each fiscal year thereafter, as well as
22 the results generated from such research, through a regu-
23 larly updated Internet-based database.”.

1 **SEC. 7. ENCOURAGING ADOPTION OF STANDARDS FOR**
2 **FIREFIGHTER HEALTH AND SAFETY.**

3 *The Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974*
4 *(15 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end*
5 *the following new section:*

6 **“SEC. 37. ENCOURAGING ADOPTION OF STANDARDS FOR**
7 **FIREFIGHTER HEALTH AND SAFETY.**

8 *“The Administrator shall promote adoption by fire*
9 *services of national voluntary consensus standards for fire-*
10 *fighter health and safety, including such standards for fire-*
11 *fighter operations, training, staffing, and fitness, by edu-*
12 *cating fire services about such standards, encouraging the*
13 *adoption at all levels of government of such standards, and*
14 *making recommendations on other ways in which the Fed-*
15 *eral government can promote the adoption of such stand-*
16 *ards by fire services.”.*

17 **SEC. 8. COORDINATION REGARDING FIRE SERVICE-BASED**
18 **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.**

19 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 21(e) of the Federal Fire*
20 *Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2218(e))*
21 *is amended to read as follows:*

22 *“(e) COORDINATION.—*

23 *“(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent practicable, the*
24 *Administrator shall utilize existing programs, data,*
25 *information, and facilities already available in other*
26 *Federal Government departments and agencies and,*

1 *where appropriate, existing research organizations,*
2 *centers, and universities.*

3 “(2) *COORDINATION OF FIRE PREVENTION AND*
4 *CONTROL PROGRAMS.—The Administrator shall pro-*
5 *vide liaison at an appropriate organizational level to*
6 *assure coordination of the Administrator’s activities*
7 *with State and local government agencies, depart-*
8 *ments, bureaus, or offices concerned with any matter*
9 *related to programs of fire prevention and control*
10 *with private and other Federal organizations and of-*
11 *fices so concerned.*

12 “(3) *COORDINATION OF FIRE SERVICE-BASED*
13 *EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAMS.—The Ad-*
14 *ministrator shall provide liaison at an appropriate*
15 *organizational level to assure coordination of the Ad-*
16 *ministrator’s activities with State and local govern-*
17 *ment agencies, departments, bureaus, or offices con-*
18 *cerned with programs related to emergency medical*
19 *services provided by fire service-based systems with*
20 *private and other Federal organizations and offices so*
21 *concerned.”.*

22 (b) *FIRE SERVICE-BASED EMERGENCY MEDICAL*
23 *SERVICES BEST PRACTICES.—Section 8(c) of such Act (15*
24 *U.S.C. 2207(c)) is amended—*

1 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (4)
2 as paragraphs (3) through (5), respectively; and

3 (2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the fol-
4 lowing new paragraph:

5 “(2) *The Administrator is authorized to conduct, di-*
6 *rectly or through contracts or grants, studies of the oper-*
7 *ations and management aspects of fire service-based emer-*
8 *gency medical services and coordination between emergency*
9 *medical services and fire services. Such studies may include*
10 *the optimum protocols for on-scene care, the allocation of*
11 *resources, and the training requirements for fire service-*
12 *based emergency medical services.”.*

13 **SEC. 9. DEFINITIONS.**

14 *Section 4 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control*
15 *Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2203) is amended—*

16 (1) *in paragraph (3), by striking “Administra-*
17 *tion” and inserting “Administration, who is the As-*
18 *stant Administrator of the Federal Emergency Man-*
19 *agement Agency”;*

20 (2) *in paragraph (7), by striking “and” after the*
21 *semicolon;*

22 (3) *in paragraph (8), by striking the period at*
23 *the end and inserting “; and”;*

24 (4) *by redesignating paragraphs (6), (7), and (8)*
25 *as paragraphs (7), (8), and (9), respectively;*

1 (5) by inserting after paragraph (5) the fol-
2 lowing new paragraph:

3 “(6) ‘hazardous materials’ has the meaning
4 given such term in section 5102(2) of title 49, United
5 States Code;” and

6 (6) by adding at the end the following new para-
7 graph:

8 “(10) ‘wildland-urban interface’ has the meaning
9 given such term in section 101(16) of the *Healthy*
10 *Forests Restoration Act of 2003* (16 U.S.C.
11 6511(16)).”.

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