

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. 153

To provide for the monitoring of the long-term medical health of firefighters who responded to emergencies in certain disaster areas and for the treatment of such firefighters.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 4, 2007

Mrs. BOXER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

FEBRUARY 5, 2007

Committee discharged; referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

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## A BILL

To provide for the monitoring of the long-term medical health of firefighters who responded to emergencies in certain disaster areas and for the treatment of such firefighters.

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 referred to as the “Healthy Fire-  
5 fighters Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress makes the following findings:

3 (1) Firefighters from the San Jacinto Ranger  
4 District responded to the Esperanza Incident wild-  
5 fire in southern California in October of 2006.

6 (2) Five firefighters from the San Jacinto  
7 Ranger District lost their lives as a consequence of  
8 fighting that fire.

9 **SEC. 3. MONITORING AND TREATMENT OF FIREFIGHTERS**  
10 **IN DISASTER AREAS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—The United States Fire Adminis-  
12 tration, after consultation with the National Institute for  
13 Occupational Safety and Health, shall—

14 (1) contract with an appropriate, locally based  
15 medical research university to conduct long-term  
16 medical health monitoring of those firefighters who  
17 responded to emergencies in any areas referred to in  
18 subsection (b); and

19 (2) in consultation with the Secretary of Health  
20 and Human Services, provide for the treatment of  
21 firefighters described in paragraph (1) who suffer  
22 health-related conditions as a result of responding to  
23 such emergencies.

24 (b) AFFECTED FIREFIGHTERS.—An area referred to  
25 in this subsection is any area which is declared a disaster  
26 area by the Federal Government.

1       (c) HEALTH MONITORING.—The long-term health  
2 monitoring referred to in subsection (a) shall include—

3           (1) pulmonary illness, neurological damage, and  
4       cardiovascular damage; and

5           (2) exposure documentation.

6       (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
7 are authorized to be appropriated to the United States  
8 Fire Administration to carry out this section, such sums  
9 as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2007 through  
10 2011.

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