

(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R. 3396**

To require the standardization of reciprocal fire suppression cost share agreements, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. HARDER of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL**

To require the standardization of reciprocal fire suppression cost share agreements, 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 "Fire Department Re-  
5 payment Act of 2023".

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO CERTAIN FIRE SUP-**  
2 **PRESSION COST SHARE AGREEMENTS.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF STANDARD OPERATING  
4 PROCEDURES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of  
5 the enactment of this section, the Secretaries shall—

6 (1) establish standard operating procedures re-  
7 lating to fire suppression cost share agreements es-  
8 tablished under the Act of May 27, 1955 (42 U.S.C.  
9 1856a) (commonly known as the “Reciprocal Fire  
10 Protection Act”); and

11 (2) with respect to each fire suppression cost  
12 share agreement in operation on such date—

13 (A) review each such agreement; and

14 (B) modify each agreement as necessary to  
15 comply with the standard operating procedures  
16 required under paragraph (1).

17 (b) ALIGNMENT OF FIRE SUPPRESSION COST SHARE  
18 AGREEMENTS WITH COOPERATIVE FIRE PROTECTION  
19 AGREEMENTS.—The standard operating procedures re-  
20 quired under subsection (a)(1) shall include a requirement  
21 that each fire suppression cost share agreement be aligned  
22 with each of the cooperative fire protection agreements ap-  
23 plicable to the entity subject to such fire suppression cost  
24 share agreement.

1 (c) SECOND-LEVEL REVIEW.—The standard oper-  
2 ating procedures required under subsection (a)(1) shall in-  
3 clude—

4 (1) a requirement that the Secretaries, to the  
5 maximum extent practicable, complete reviews, in-  
6 cluding second-level reviews of a fire suppression  
7 cost share agreement, as soon as practicable after a  
8 wildfire relating to the area covered by such fire  
9 suppression cost share agreement is contained; and

10 (2) a requirement that in completing such re-  
11 views, the Secretaries consults with State and local  
12 fire suppression organizations.

13 (d) SECRETARIES DEFINED.—In this section, the  
14 term “Secretaries” means—

- 15 (1) the Secretary of Agriculture;  
16 (2) the Secretary of the Interior;  
17 (3) the Secretary of Homeland Security; and  
18 (4) the Secretary of Defense.