

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7263

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to provide notice in the case of certain ski area closures, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 11, 2018

Mr. TIPTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to provide notice in the case of certain ski area closures, 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 “Ski Area and Forest
5 Emergency Procedures Act of 2018” or “SAFE Act of
6 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. REQUIRING NOTICE OF INTENT TO CLOSE CERTAIN**
2 **SKI AREAS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Agriculture may
4 not close a ski area located in a National Forest unless—

5 (1) at least 14 days before such closure occurs,
6 the Secretary of Agriculture—

7 (A) provides to the general manager of
8 such ski area or the designated representative
9 of such manager a notification of—

10 (i) the intended closure date of such
11 ski area;

12 (ii) an explanation for the closure that
13 includes—

14 (I) uniform standards developed
15 by the Secretary to be used across the
16 National Forest System (as defined in
17 section 11(a) of the Forest and
18 Rangeland Renewable Resources
19 Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C.
20 1609(a)); and

21 (II) a risk assessment for the
22 spread of fire to such ski area; and

23 (iii) the opportunity for the general
24 manager (or designated representative) to
25 appeal such closure through a meeting
26 with—

1 (I) the Forest Supervisor of the
2 National Forest involved in person;
3 and

4 (II) a representative from the of-
5 fice of the Secretary, Secretary's rep-
6 resentative in person or through tele-
7 phone or other form of remote confer-
8 encing; and

9 (B) makes the information described in
10 clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A) avail-
11 able to the public; and

12 (2) at least 7 days before such closure occurs,
13 the Secretary of Agriculture—

14 (A) provides to the general manager of
15 such ski area a final notice of closure; and

16 (B) makes such final notice available to
17 the public.

18 (b) REQUIREMENT FOR SKI AREA OPERATING
19 PLAN.—The general manager of a ski area located in a
20 National Forest shall submit to the Secretary of Agri-
21 culture an operating plan for such ski area that includes
22 the circumstances under which subsection (a) would not
23 apply to the closure of such ski area.

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