

117TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. RES. 854

Honoring the individuals fighting and the individuals who have fallen responding to wildland fires during the ongoing 2022 wildfire season.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 30 (legislative day, NOVEMBER 29), 2022

Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. LUMMIS, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Honoring the individuals fighting and the individuals who have fallen responding to wildland fires during the ongoing 2022 wildfire season.

Whereas more than 7,200,000 acres have burned in wildfire in 2022;

Whereas changing climates, resulting in long-term trends of warmer and drier weather, and mismanagement of the forests of the United States are exacerbating the threat of wildfires and contributing to the greater than normal fire activity in western States, resulting in dangerous conditions for wildland firefighters;

Whereas the Coronavirus Disease 2019 pandemic has exacerbated the public health and public safety risks inherent in combating wildfires;

Whereas more than 20,000 personnel have been assigned to contain and combat the fires that threaten the West;

Whereas Federal pay levels for wildland firefighters were established more than 30 years ago and should be re-evaluated based on the current wildfire risk and job market;

Whereas the Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center program established by the Department of Labor and the Department of Agriculture trains the next generation of forestry technicians and wildland firefighters, providing dedicated personnel for conservation and firefighting activities; and

Whereas wildland firefighters, first responders, sheriffs, and community leaders have acted bravely and risked their lives to contain dangerous wildfires across the United States to protect families and critical infrastructure:
Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) recognizes the efforts and sacrifices of the
3 wildland firefighters who have risked their lives to
4 fight intense wildfires in 2022;

5 (2) honors the bravery and heroism of the men
6 and women assisting in responding to and combating
7 wildfires;

8 (3) expresses appreciation and gratitude to fire-
9 fighters for protecting lives and property in the

1 United States during the ongoing 2022 wildfire sea-
2 son;

3 (4) expresses full support for communities
4 throughout the West as those communities focus on
5 recovery and rebuilding areas and communities af-
6 fected by wildfires; and

7 (5) extends gratitude and appreciation to the
8 families and loved ones of wildland firefighters for
9 their important role in supporting the wildland fire-
10 fighter community.

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