

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1272

To authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for the United States Fire Administration, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 10, 1997

Mr. SCHIFF introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science

A BILL

To authorize appropriations for fiscal years 1998 and 1999 for 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 “Fire Administration
5 Authorization Act of 1997”.

6 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

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

9 (1) by striking “and” at the end of subpara-
10 graph (E);

1 (2) by striking the period at the end of sub-
2 paragraph (F) and inserting in lieu thereof a semi-
3 colon; and

4 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
5 paragraphs:

6 “(G) \$29,600,000 for the fiscal year ending
7 September 30, 1998; and

8 “(H) \$30,500,000 for the fiscal year ending
9 September 30, 1999.”.

10 **SEC. 3. SUCCESSOR FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS.**

11 The Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974
12 is amended—

13 (1) in section 29(a)(1), by inserting “, or any
14 successor standard thereto,” after “Association
15 Standard 74”;

16 (2) in section 29(a)(2), by inserting “or any
17 successor standards thereto,” after “whichever is ap-
18 propriate,”;

19 (3) in section 29(b)(2), by inserting “, or any
20 successor standards thereto” after “Association
21 Standard 13 or 13-R”;

22 (4) in section 31(c)(2)(B)(i), by inserting “or
23 any successor standard thereto,” after “Life Safety
24 Code),”; and

1 (5) in section 31(c)(2)(B)(ii), by inserting “or
2 any successor standard thereto,” after “Association
3 Standard 101,”.

4 **SEC. 4. TERMINATION OR PRIVATIZATION OF FUNCTIONS.**

5 The Administrator of the United States Fire Admin-
6 istration shall transmit to Congress a report providing no-
7 tice at least 60 days in advance of the termination or
8 transfer to a private sector entity of any significant func-
9 tion of the United States Fire Administration.

10 **SEC. 5. LIMITATIONS.**

11 (a) PROHIBITION OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES.—None
12 of the funds authorized by the amendments made by this
13 Act shall be available for any activity whose purpose is
14 to influence legislation pending before the Congress, ex-
15 cept that this subsection shall not prevent officers or em-
16 ployees of the United States or of its departments or agen-
17 cies from communicating to Members of Congress on the
18 request of any Member or to Congress, through the proper
19 channels, requests for legislation or appropriations which
20 they deem necessary for the efficient conduct of the public
21 business.

22 (b) LIMITATION ON APPROPRIATIONS.—Notwith-
23 standing any other provision of law, no sums are author-
24 ized to be appropriated for fiscal years 1998 and 1999
25 for the activities for which sums are authorized by the

1 amendments made by this Act, unless such sums are spe-
2 cifically authorized to be appropriated by the amendments
3 made by this Act.

4 (c) ELIGIBILITY FOR AWARDS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the
6 United States Fire Administration shall exclude
7 from consideration for grant agreements made by
8 the Administration after fiscal year 1997 any person
9 who received funds, other than those described in
10 paragraph (2), appropriated for a fiscal year after
11 fiscal year 1997, under a grant agreement from any
12 Federal funding source for a project that was not
13 subjected to a competitive, merit-based award proc-
14 ess. Any exclusion from consideration pursuant to
15 this subsection shall be effective for a period of 5
16 years after the person receives such Federal funds.

17 (2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not
18 apply to the receipt of Federal funds by a person
19 due to the membership of that person in a class
20 specified by law for which assistance is awarded to
21 members of the class according to a formula pro-
22 vided by law.

23 (3) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this sub-
24 section, the term “grant agreement” means a legal
25 instrument whose principal purpose is to transfer a

1 thing of value to the recipient to carry out a public
2 purpose of support or stimulation authorized by a
3 law of the United States, and does not include the
4 acquisition (by purchase, lease, or barter) of prop-
5 erty or services for the direct benefit or use of the
6 United States Government.

7 **SEC. 6. NOTICE.**

8 (a) NOTICE OF REPROGRAMMING.—If any funds au-
9 thorized by the amendments made by this Act are subject
10 to a reprogramming action that requires notice to be pro-
11 vided to the Appropriations Committees of the House of
12 Representatives and the Senate, notice of such action shall
13 concurrently be provided to the Committee on Science of
14 the House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-
15 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate.

16 (b) NOTICE OF REORGANIZATION.—The Adminis-
17 trator of the United States Fire Administration shall pro-
18 vide notice to the Committees on Science and Appropria-
19 tions of the House of Representatives, and the Committees
20 on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and Appropria-
21 tions of the Senate, not later than 15 days before any
22 major reorganization of any program, project, or activity
23 of the United States Fire Administration.

1 **SEC. 7. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE YEAR 2000 PROBLEM.**

2 With the year 2000 fast approaching, it is the sense
3 of Congress that the United States Fire Administration
4 should—

5 (1) give high priority to correcting all 2-digit
6 date-related problems in its computer systems to en-
7 sure that those systems continue to operate effec-
8 tively in the year 2000 and beyond;

9 (2) assess immediately the extent of the risk to
10 the operations of the United States Fire Administra-
11 tion posed by the problems referred to in paragraph
12 (1), and plan and budget for achieving Year 2000
13 compliance for all of its mission-critical systems; and

14 (3) develop contingency plans for those systems
15 that the United States Fire Administration is unable
16 to correct in time.

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