

AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT

117-54

OFFERED BY MR. NEGUSE OF COLORADO

At the appropriate place in division E, insert:

1 **SECTION ____ . UNITED STATES FIRE ADMINISTRATION**

2 **FIREFIGHTER PAY.**

3 (a) **FEDERAL WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER PAY.—**

4 (1) **IN GENERAL.—**Not later than 1 year after
5 the date of enactment of this Act, the minimum rate
6 of basic pay for any Federal wildland firefighter po-
7 sition shall be not less than the rate of pay for step
8 3 of GS-6 of the General Schedule, as adjusted by
9 the pay locality designated as “Rest of U.S.” under
10 section 5304 of title 5, United States Code.

11 (2) **ANNUAL ADJUSTMENTS.—**Notwithstanding
12 any other provision of law, beginning in the first pay
13 period beginning on or after the date that the pay
14 scale is established under paragraph (1) and annu-
15 ally thereafter, the basic rate of pay for each Fed-
16 eral wildland firefighter occupying a position within
17 such pay scale shall be increased by not less than
18 the percentage equal to the percent change in the
19 Consumer Price Index (all items—United States city

1 average), published monthly by the Bureau of Labor
2 Statistics, for December of the preceding year over
3 such Consumer Price Index for the December of the
4 year prior to the preceding year, adjusted to the
5 nearest one-tenth of 1 percent.

6 (3) COMPENSATION COMPARABLE TO NON-FED-
7 ERAL FIREFIGHTERS.—Not later than 1 year after
8 the date the pay scale is established under para-
9 graph (1), the Secretary of Agriculture and the Sec-
10 retary of the Interior shall submit a report to Con-
11 gress on whether pay, benefits, and bonuses provided
12 to Federal wildland firefighters are comparable to
13 the pay, benefits, and bonuses provided for non-Fed-
14 eral firefighters in the State or locality where Fed-
15 eral wildland firefighters are based.

16 (4) HAZARDOUS DUTY PAY.—Each Federal
17 wildland firefighter carrying out work completed
18 during prescribed fire, parachuting, tree climbing
19 over 20 feet, hazard tree removal, and other haz-
20 ardous work as identified by the Secretaries, shall be
21 entitled to be paid the appropriate differential under
22 section 5545(d) of title 5, United States Code, as if
23 such employee was covered by such subsection. The
24 Director may prescribe regulations to carry out this
25 paragraph.

1 (5) FEDERAL WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER.—In
2 this section, the term “Federal wildland firefighter”
3 means any temporary, seasonal, or permanent posi-
4 tion at the Department of Agriculture or the De-
5 partment of the Interior that maintains group, emer-
6 gency incident management, or fire qualifications, as
7 established annually by the Standards for Wildland
8 Fire Position Qualifications published by the Na-
9 tional Wildfire Coordinating Group, and primarily
10 engages in or supports wildland fire management ac-
11 tivities, including forestry and rangeland technicians
12 and positions concerning aviation, engineering heavy
13 equipment operations, or fire and fuels management.

14 (b) PAY PARITY FOR FEDERAL STRUCTURAL FIRE-
15 FIGHTERS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
17 the date of enactment of this Act, any pay, benefits,
18 and bonuses provided to any Federal structural fire-
19 fighter shall be comparable with the pay, benefits,
20 and bonuses provided for Federal wildland fire-
21 fighters under this Act. Not later than 1 year after
22 the date the pay scale is established under sub-
23 section (a)(1), the Director of the Office of Per-
24 sonnel Management shall submit a report to Con-
25 gress on whether pay for such Federal structural

1 firefighters is competitive with Federal wildland fire-
2 fighters.

3 (2) FEDERAL STRUCTURAL FIREFIGHTER.—In
4 this section, the term “Federal structural fire-
5 fighter”—

6 (A) has the meaning given the term “fire-
7 fighter” in section 8401 of chapter 84 of title
8 5, United States Code; and

9 (B) does not include any Federal wildland
10 firefighter.

11 (3) FEDERAL WILDLAND FIREFIGHTER.—In
12 this section, the term “Federal wildland firefighter”
13 means any temporary, seasonal, or permanent posi-
14 tion at the Department of Agriculture or the De-
15 partment of the Interior that maintains group, emer-
16 gency incident management, or fire qualifications, as
17 established annually by the Standards for Wildland
18 Fire Position Qualifications published by the Na-
19 tional Wildfire Coordinating Group, and primarily
20 engages in or supports wildland fire management ac-
21 tivities, including forestry and rangeland technicians
22 and positions concerning aviation, engineering heavy
23 equipment operations, or fire and fuels management.

