

**AMENDMENT TO**  
**RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 119-22**  
**OFFERED BY MS. PETERSEN OF COLORADO**

At the end of part I of subtitle D of title VIII, add the following:

1 **SEC. 8409. LIMITATION ON REDUCTION OF FOREST SERV-**  
2 **ICE ESSENTIAL WILDFIRE RESPONSE EM-**  
3 **PLOYEES.**

4 (a) **LIMITATION.**—The Secretary, acting through the  
5 Chief of the Forest Service, shall maintain—

6 (1) the target staffing levels of the Forest Serv-  
7 ice with respect to essential wildfire response em-  
8 ployees at levels not less than target staffing levels  
9 on January 20, 2025; and

10 (2) the number of positions at the Forest Serv-  
11 ice for essential wildfire response employees at a  
12 number not less than the number of such positions  
13 existing on January 20, 2025.

14 (b) **ESSENTIAL WILDFIRE RESPONSE EMPLOYEE**  
15 **DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “essential wildfire  
16 response employee” means an employee of the Forest  
17 Service—

1           (1) that possesses a certification that qualifies  
2           the individual to work on a wildland fire incident  
3           (commonly known as an “Incident Qualification  
4           Card”);

5           (2) whose professional responsibilities include  
6           activities to mitigate the risk, severity, and damages  
7           of wildfire; or

8           (3) whose professional responsibilities are re-  
9           lated to the wildfire response capabilities of Forest  
10          Service.

