

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize the use of fire management assistance grants for debris removal, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. MARSHALL) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize the use of fire management assistance grants for debris removal, 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 “Post-Wildfire Environ-
5 mental Emergency Assistance Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FIRE MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE.**

2 Section 420 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief
3 and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5187) is
4 amended—

5 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “and control”
6 and inserting “control, and remediation”;

7 (2) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-
8 section (f); and

9 (3) by inserting after subsection (d) the fol-
10 lowing:

11 “(e) DEBRIS REMOVAL.—

12 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Whether or not a major
13 disaster is declared, the President may provide as-
14 sistance under this section to clear debris and wreck-
15 age from publicly and privately owned lands and
16 waters resulting from a fire described in subsection
17 (a).

18 “(2) EPA ASSISTANCE.—In providing assist-
19 ance to a State or local government for debris re-
20 moval under this section involving hazardous waste
21 identified or listed pursuant to section 3001(b) of
22 the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6921(b)),
23 a hazardous substance described or listed pursuant
24 to sections 101 and 102 of the Comprehensive Envi-
25 ronmental Response, Compensation, and Liability
26 Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601, 9602), or a hazardous

1 substance described in section 302.4 of title 40,
2 Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regula-
3 tion), the President may direct the Administrator of
4 the Environmental Protection Agency to provide,
5 with or without reimbursement, the authorities and
6 resources granted to the Environmental Protection
7 Agency under Federal law (including personnel,
8 equipment, supplies, facilities, and managerial, tech-
9 nical, and advisory services) to assist the State or
10 local government with the debris removal.”.