

## 116TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

# H. R. 7866

To direct the Secretary of Defense to award grants and carry out other activities to develop alternatives to aqueous film-forming foam, and for other purposes.

#### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 30, 2020

Ms. Dean (for herself, Mr. Gallagher, Mr. Kim, Mr. Kildee, and Ms. Houlahan) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

### A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Defense to award grants and carry out other activities to develop alternatives to aqueous film-forming foam, 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 "PFAS Free Foam Re-
- 5 search and Development Act".

#### SEC. 2. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE 2 TO AQUEOUS FILM-FORMING FOAM. 3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense, acting through the National Institute of Standards and Tech-4 5 nology and in consultation with appropriate stakeholders and manufacturers, research institutions, and other Fed-6 7 eral agencies, shall award grants and carry out other ac-8 tivities to— 9 (1) promote and advance the research and de-10 velopment of additional alternatives to aqueous film-11 forming foam (in this section referred to as "AFFF") containing per- and polyfluoroalkyl sub-12 13 stances (in this section referred to as "PFAS") to 14 facilitate the development of a military specification 15 and subsequent fielding of a PFAS-free fire-fighting 16 foam; 17 (2) advance the use of green and sustainable 18 chemistry for a fluorine-free alternative to AFFF; 19 (3) increase opportunities for sharing best prac-20 tices within the research and development sector 21 with respect to AFFF; 22 (4) assist in the testing of potential alternatives 23 to AFFF; and 24 (5) provide guidelines on priorities with respect

to an alternative to AFFF.

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| 1  | (b) Additional Requirements.—In carrying out               |
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| 2  | the program required under subsection (a), the Secretary   |
| 3  | shall—   |
| 4  | (1) take into consideration the different uses of          |
| 5  | AFFF and the priorities of the Department of De-           |
| 6  | fense in finding an alternative;                           |
| 7  | (2) prioritize green and sustainable chemicals             |
| 8  | that do not pose a threat to public health or the en-      |
| 9  | vironment; and   |
| 10 | (3) use and leverage research from existing De-            |
| 11 | partment of Defense programs.                              |
| 12 | (c) Report.—The Secretary shall submit to Con-             |
| 13 | gress a report on—   |
| 14 | (1) the priorities and actions taken with respect          |
| 15 | to finding an alternative to AFFF and the imple-           |
| 16 | mentation of such priorities; and                          |
| 17 | (2) any alternatives the Secretary has denied,             |
| 18 | and the reason for any such denial.                        |
| 19 | (d) Use of Funds.—This section shall be carried            |
| 20 | out using amounts authorized to be available for the Stra- |
| 21 | tegic Environmental Research and Development Program.      |