

Public Law 101-446
101st Congress

An Act

To improve the information available to emergency response personnel in the field,
and for other purposes.

Oct. 22, 1990
[H.R. 4522]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the
United States of America in Congress assembled,*

Firefighters'
Safety Study
Act.
Inter-
governmental
relations.
15 USC 2223a
note.
15 USC 2223a.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Firefighters' Safety Study Act".

SEC. 2. REVIEW.

The Administrator of the United States Fire Administration (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Administrator") shall conduct a review of existing response information used by emergency response personnel at the State and local levels to evaluate its accuracy and consistency, and to determine whether it is properly expressed. Such information should clearly communicate to emergency response personnel the probable hazards which they must contend with in an emergency situation involving hazardous materials, and the appropriate response to those hazards.

SEC. 3. WORKING GROUP.

15 USC 2223b.

For the purpose of carrying out section 2, the Administrator shall establish a working group which shall, at a minimum, consist of—

- (1) program officials from each of—
 - (A) the Environmental Protection Agency;
 - (B) the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration;
 - (C) the Department of Transportation;
 - (D) the Occupational Safety and Health Administration;
 and
 - (E) the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, who develop and disseminate hazardous materials identification and response data, and who collect, collate, analyze, and disseminate hazardous materials incident data;
- (2) State and local operational officials with emergency response or relevant regulatory responsibilities; and
- (3) representatives of companies engaged in the manufacture and processing of chemicals.

SEC. 4. REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

15 USC 2223c.

The working group established under section 3 shall, within 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, submit a report to the Administrator and to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate presenting the results of the review carried out under this Act, along with recommendations to ensure that response information disseminated to emergency response personnel is appropriate for operational personnel at the local level.

15 USC 2223d. **SEC. 5. ANNUAL REVISION OF RECOMMENDATIONS.**

After the submission of the report cited in section 4, the working group established under section 3 shall meet as needed, but at least once every 12 months, to review and recommend changes and additions to the report cited in section 4, that are necessary and appropriate for operational personnel at the local level.

15 USC 2223e. **SEC. 6. DEFINITION.**

As used in this Act, the term "emergency response personnel" means personnel responsible for mitigation activities in a medical emergency, fire emergency, hazardous material emergency, or natural disaster.

Approved October 22, 1990.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 4522:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 101-473 (Comm. on Science, Space, and Technology).

SENATE REPORTS: No. 101-452 (Comm. on Commerce, Science, and Transportation).

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 136 (1990):

May 8, considered and passed House.

Oct. 5, considered and passed Senate.