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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to reimburse certain expenses during a period in which there is a lapse in appropriations for the Federal Emergency Management Agency and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. MCCLAIN DELANEY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to reimburse certain expenses during a period in which there is a lapse in appropriations for the Federal Emergency Management Agency 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “National Fire Academy
3 Reimbursement for Emergency Service Course Unavail-
4 ability and Expenses Act” or the “National Fire Academy
5 RESCUE Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REIMBURSEMENT OF CERTAIN EXPENSES DURING**
7 **A LAPSE IN APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE NA-**
8 **TIONAL ACADEMY FOR FIRE PREVENTION**
9 **AND CONTROL.**

10 (a) REIMBURSEMENT OF CERTAIN EXPENSES.—Sec-
11 tion 7 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of
12 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2206) is amended—

13 (1) by redesignating subsection (n) as sub-
14 section (o); and

15 (2) by inserting after subsection (m) the fol-
16 lowing new subsection:

17 “(n) REIMBURSEMENT OF CERTAIN EXPENSES.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect to a covered
19 course or activity that is cancelled during a period
20 in which there is a lapse in appropriations, or as a
21 result of such a lapse, for the Federal Emergency
22 Management Agency, the Administrator of FEMA,
23 subject to paragraph (2), shall reimburse a fire de-
24 partment for any covered expense related to such
25 covered course or activity not later than 90 days
26 after the later of—

1 “(A) the date such period ends, if applica-
2 ble; or

3 “(B) the date the Administrator of FEMA
4 receives an itemization under paragraph (3)
5 from such fire department relating to such cov-
6 ered course or activity.

7 “(2) GOOD CAUSE.—A reimbursement under
8 paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect to a cov-
9 ered course or activity that is cancelled if such cov-
10 ered course or activity is cancelled for good cause.

11 “(3) ITEMIZATION OF EXPENSES.—Not later
12 than 30 days after the date on which a lapse in ap-
13 propriations for the Federal Emergency Manage-
14 ment Agency ends, the fire chief or other appro-
15 priate head of a fire department affected by a cov-
16 ered course or activity that is cancelled during any
17 such period, or as a result of any such lapse, may
18 submit to the Administrator of FEMA an applica-
19 tion for reimbursement that includes an itemization
20 of each covered expense incurred by such fire de-
21 partment.

22 “(4) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

23 “(A) BACKFILL EXPENSE.—The term
24 ‘backfill expense’ means an expense incurred for
25 the following:

1 “(i) Staffing adjustments.

2 “(ii) Overtime compensation.

3 “(B) COVERED COURSE OR ACTIVITY.—

4 The term ‘covered course or activity’ means—

5 “(i) a course or program that is of-
6 fered by the Academy—

7 “(I) in-person and on-campus;

8 “(II) in-person and off-campus;

9 or

10 “(III) through synchronous or
11 asynchronous virtual instruction; or

12 “(ii) a conference or symposium that
13 is offered by the Academy in-person and
14 on-campus.

15 “(C) COVERED EXPENSE.—The term ‘cov-
16 ered expense’ means any expense that a fire de-
17 partment incurred for the planned participation
18 of the personnel of such fire department in a
19 covered course or activity, including the fol-
20 lowing:

21 “(i) Any travel expense.

22 “(ii) Any backfill expense.

23 “(D) GOOD CAUSE.—The term ‘good
24 cause’ includes the following:

1 “(i) The closure of a facility of the
2 Academy for any reason other than a lapse
3 in appropriations.

4 “(ii) The illness or unavailability of an
5 instructor of the Academy.

6 “(iii) A national emergency that im-
7 pedes access to a facility of the Academy
8 by a student or faculty member of the
9 Academy.”.