



REP. TOM PRICE, M.D. (R-GA), CHAIRMAN
 PAUL TELLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 424 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
 WASHINGTON, DC 20515

Legislative Bulletin.....November 18, 2009

Contents:

H.R. 3791—Fire Grants Reauthorization Act of 2009

Order of Business: The bill is expected to be considered on Wednesday, November 18, 2009, under a structured rule ([H.Res.909](#)) providing for one hour of general debate, making in order one amendment that self-executes upon adoption of the rule and five additional amendments under regular order. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill, except the ones for earmarks and “pay-go” violations. The rule allows one motion to recommit with or without instructions.

**AMENDMENTS MADE IN ORDER UNDER THE RULE-PART A
 CONSIDERED TO BE ADOPTED**

1. The amendment would prohibit the Director of FEMA from denying grants solely on the basis that an applicant could not use the grants funds to prevent or respond to a terrorist threat or is necessary to respond to from an attack by weapon of mass destruction. Additionally, the bill makes the Administrator of the United States Fire Administration present the required report in the underlying bill to Congress (instead of just several committees).

AMENDMENTS MADE IN ORDER UNDER THE RULE-PART B

1. *Titus (D-NV)*. Allows Assistance to Firefighter Grants to be used for the purchase of equipment that reduces the amount of water used during fire fighting or training.
2. *Perlmutter (D-CO)*. Adds a fifth section to the bill to require the Department of Homeland Security to submit to Congress within two years a survey of fire departments to determine whether each is in compliance with the national voluntary consensus standards for staffing, training, safe operations, protective equipment, and fitness. The survey will include how professional, combination, and volunteer departments compare, factoring in community sizes. Additionally, the amendment establishes a taskforce to enhance fire safety, consisting of organizations representing fire chiefs, standards setting agencies, and other individuals the Secretary deems appropriate. The purpose of the taskforce is to develop a national consensus on standard procedures for staffing, training, safe operations, protective equipment, and fitness and consider ways the federal government, states, and localities, can encourage fire departments to comply with national voluntary consensus standards.

3. **Flake (R-AZ)**. Prohibits any of the funds in the bill from being used for an earmark.
4. **Holden (D-PA)**. Allows Assistance to Firefighter Grants to be obtained by nonprofit volunteer non-EMS rescue organizations. Additionally, the amendment allows river rescue organizations that perform emergency rescue operations from a water related disaster to be eligible for a grant.
5. **Cardoza (D-CA)**. Requires the Director of FEMA to consider unemployment rates in jurisdictions, when considering grant applications.