

2. AN AMENDMENT TO BE OFFERED BY REPRESENTATIVE PERLMUTTER, ED OF COLORADO OR HIS DESIGNEE, DEBATABLE FOR 10 MINUTES

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 3791, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. PERLMUTTER OF COLORADO**

At the end of the bill, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 5. NATIONAL VOLUNTARY CONSENSUS STANDARDS.**

2 (a) SURVEY BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND
3 SECURITY.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days
5 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
6 retary of Homeland Security, in consultation with
7 the Task Force established under subsection (b),
8 shall begin to conduct a survey of each career fire
9 department, volunteer fire department, and combina-
10 tion fire department located in the United States in
11 order to ascertain whether each fire department is in
12 compliance with the national voluntary consensus
13 standards for staffing, training, safe operations, per-
14 sonal protective equipment, and fitness.

15 (2) CONTENTS.—In carrying out the survey,
16 the Secretary shall ascertain, for each fire depart-
17 ment in the United States, the rates of compliance
18 with each such standard of—

19 (A) career fire departments, volunteer fire
20 departments, and combination fire departments;

1 (B) fire departments located in commu-
2 nities of varying sizes; and

3 (C) fire departments in each of the States.

4 (3) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the
5 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall
6 submit to Congress a summary of the findings of the
7 survey required under paragraph (1), including the
8 rates of compliance under the categories specified
9 under subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph
10 (2).

11 (b) ESTABLISHMENT OF TASK FORCE TO ENHANCE
12 FIREFIGHTER SAFETY.—

13 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 60 days
14 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
15 retary shall establish a task force to be known as the
16 “Task Force to Enhance Firefighter Safety” (in this
17 section referred to as the “Task Force”).

18 (2) MEMBERSHIP.—

19 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ap-
20 point members of the Task Force from among
21 the general public and shall include—

22 (i) representatives of national organi-
23 zations representing firefighters and fire
24 chiefs;

1 (ii) individuals representing stand-
2 ards-setting and accrediting organizations,
3 including representatives from the vol-
4 untary consensus codes and standards de-
5 velopment community; and

6 (iii) other individuals as the Secretary
7 determines to be appropriate.

8 (B) REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER DE-
9 PARTMENTS AND AGENCIES.—The Secretary
10 may invite representatives of other departments
11 and agencies of the United States that have an
12 interest in the fire service to participate in the
13 meetings and other activities of the Task Force.

14 (C) NUMBER; TERMS OF SERVICE; PAY
15 AND ALLOWANCES.—The Secretary shall deter-
16 mine the number, terms of service, and pay and
17 allowances of members of the Task Force ap-
18 pointed by the Secretary, except that a term of
19 service of any such member may not exceed 2
20 years.

21 (3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Task Force
22 shall—

23 (A) consult with the Secretary to conduct
24 the survey required under subsection (a); and

1 (B) develop a plan to enhance firefighter
2 safety by increasing fire department compliance
3 with national voluntary consensus standards for
4 staffing, training, safe operations, personal pro-
5 tective equipment, and fitness, including by—

6 (i) reviewing and evaluating the report
7 required under subsection (a) to determine
8 the extent of and barriers to achieving
9 compliance with national voluntary con-
10 sensus standards among fire departments;
11 and

12 (ii) considering ways in which the
13 Federal Government, States, and localities
14 can promote or encourage fire departments
15 to comply with national voluntary con-
16 sensus standards.

17 (4) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6
18 months after the date on which the Secretary sub-
19 mits the report required under subsection (a)(3), the
20 Task Force shall submit to Congress and the Sec-
21 retary a report containing the findings and rec-
22 ommendations of the Task Force together with the
23 plan described in paragraph (3)(B).

24 (c) DEFINITIONS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The terms used in this sec-
2 tion that are defined in sections 4, 33, or 34 of the
3 Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974
4 shall have the meaning given such terms in such
5 Act.

6 (2) NATIONAL VOLUNTARY CONSENSUS STAND-
7 ARDS.—For the purposes of this section, the term
8 “national voluntary consensus standards” means the
9 latest edition of the national voluntary consensus
10 standards for firefighter and fire department staff-
11 ing, training, safe operations, personal protective
12 equipment, and fitness available on the date of the
13 enactment of this Act.

14 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
15 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of
16 Homeland Security such sums as may be necessary to
17 carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2010 through
18 2013.

