

**Forest Wildfire Emergency Pay Equity Act of 1988**

PUBLIC LAW 100-523—OCT. 24, 1988

102

STAT. 2605

Public Law 100-523  
100th Congress

## An Act

To amend title 5, United States Code, to allow all forest fire fighting employees to be paid overtime without limitation while serving on forest fire emergencies.

[S. 1911]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,* That this Act may be cited as the “Forest Wildfire Emergency Pay Equity Act of 1988”.

SEC. 2. Section 5547 of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 5547. Limitation on premium pay

“(a) An employee may be paid premium pay under sections 5542, 5545 (a), (b), and (c), and 5546 (a) and (b) of this title only to the extent that the payment does not cause his aggregate rate of pay for any pay period to exceed the maximum rate for GS-15. The first sentence of this subsection shall not apply to any employee of the Federal Aviation Administration or the Department of Defense who is paid premium pay under section 5546a of this title.

“(b)(1) The provisions of subsection (a) shall not apply to the pay of any forest firefighter for any pay period in which such firefighter is assigned to work on, or in support of, forest wildfire emergencies.

“(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1), no forest firefighter employee may be paid premium pay to the extent that the aggregate rate of pay of such employee for the aggregate of all pay periods in any calendar year exceeds the maximum rate for GS-15 as provided under the General Schedule pursuant to subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code.

“(3) For purposes of this subsection, the term—

“(A) ‘forest firefighter’ means any employee of the Department of Agriculture or the Department of the Interior who is assigned to work on, or in support of, forest wildfire emergencies; and

“(B) ‘in support of’ means duties performed during a temporary assignment to work on a wildland fire suppression for which the salary costs of employees shall be paid from funds provided to the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, United States Fish and Wildlife Service or the Bureau of Indian Affairs for fire fighting.”.

Approved October 24, 1988.