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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

## H. RES. \_\_\_\_\_

Recognizing the longstanding partnership between the United States and Australia to share critical firefighting resources during times of crisis.

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### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. PANETTA submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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## RESOLUTION

Recognizing the longstanding partnership between the United States and Australia to share critical firefighting resources during times of crisis.

Whereas Australia and the United States have long held a unique relationship, marked by diplomatic, security, and economic cooperation;

Whereas Australia and the United States celebrated 100 years of mateship on July 4, 2018, marking the 100-year anniversary of the Battle of Hamel, which helped turn the tide of World War I;

Whereas the United States and Australia have shared firefighting resources, including specialist firefighters, for over 15 years;

Whereas the United States and Australia are experiencing some of the hottest and driest weather conditions on record, exacerbating the threat of wildfires and contributing to longer wildfire seasons in both nations;

Whereas over 100 Australian firefighters traveled to the United States in August 2018, to assist with efforts to contain wildfires that threatened communities in California, Oregon, and Washington;

Whereas over 200 American firefighters have been mobilized to Australia over the past month to help combat and contain devastating bushfires that have burned over 12,500,000 acres of land; and

Whereas multiple United States agencies, including the Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Fish and Wildlife Services, have provided American firefighters to help combat Australia's bushfires: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2           (1) recognizes the value of the longstanding  
3       partnership between the United States and Australia  
4       to share critical firefighting resources during times  
5       of crisis;

6           (2) recognizes the efforts and bravery of Aus-  
7       tralian firefighters who have not only risked their  
8       lives to fight wildfires in their own country but also  
9       helped contain several dangerous wildfires in North  
10      America;

1           (3) recognizes the efforts and bravery of Amer-  
2        ican firefighters who have not only risked their lives  
3        to fight wildfires in their own country but have also  
4        provided their services to combat the bushfires cur-  
5        rently ravaging the Australian continent;

6           (4) expresses full support for the people of Aus-  
7        tralia during the ongoing bushfire crisis;

8           (5) supports continued partnership between the  
9        Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research  
10       Organisation and United States Federal agencies to  
11       share research, technology, and best practices re-  
12       lated to wildfire mitigation and suppression; and

13          (6) supports continued cooperation and greater  
14        collaboration between Australia and the United  
15        States to mitigate the underlying factors driving ex-  
16        tended and more intense wildfire years in both coun-  
17        tries.