

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4441**  
**OFFERED BY MS. BROWNLEY OF CALIFORNIA**

Page 235, after line 18, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 442. INTERFERENCE WITH WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION**  
2 **BY OPERATION OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 463 of title 49, United  
4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
5 lowing:

6 **“§ 46320. Interference with wildfire suppression by**  
7 **operation of unmanned aircraft**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection  
9 (b), an individual who knowingly operates an unmanned  
10 aircraft and thereby recklessly interferes with a wildfire  
11 suppression effort is liable to the United States Govern-  
12 ment for a civil penalty of not more than \$25,000.

13 “(b) EXCEPTIONS.—This section does not apply to  
14 the operation of an unmanned aircraft conducted by a unit  
15 or agency of the United States Government or of a State,  
16 tribal, or local government (including any individual con-  
17 ducting such operation pursuant to a contract or other  
18 agreement entered into with the unit or agency) for the  
19 purpose of protecting the public safety and welfare, includ-  
20 ing firefighting or emergency response.

1 “(c) COMPROMISE AND SETOFF.—

2 “(1) COMPROMISE.—The Secretary of Trans-  
3 portation may compromise the amount of a civil pen-  
4 alty imposed under this section.

5 “(2) SETOFF.—The United States Government  
6 may deduct the amount of a civil penalty imposed or  
7 compromised under this section from the amounts  
8 the Government owes the person liable for the pen-  
9 alty.

10 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following  
11 definitions apply:

12 “(1) WILDFIRE.—The term ‘wildfire’ has the  
13 meaning given that term in section 2 of the Emer-  
14 gency Wildfire Suppression Act (42 U.S.C. 1856m).

15 “(2) WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION EFFORT.—The  
16 term ‘wildfire suppression effort’ means an effort to  
17 contain, extinguish, or suppress a wildfire.”.

18 (b) FAA TO IMPOSE CIVIL PENALTY.—Section  
19 46301(d)(2) of title 49, United States Code, is amended  
20 by inserting “section 46320,” after “section 46319,”.

21 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-  
22 ter 463 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by  
23 adding at the end the following:

“46320. Interference with wildfire suppression by operation of unmanned air-  
craft.”.

