

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 731

To exempt hazardous fuel reduction activities from certain environmental requirements for a 10-year period.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 24, 2025

Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. BACON, and Mr. LAMALFA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To exempt hazardous fuel reduction activities from certain environmental requirements for a 10-year period.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Green Tape Elimina-
5 tion Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXEMPTION OF HAZARDOUS FUEL REDUCTION AC-**
2 **TIVITIES FROM CERTAIN ENVIRONMENTAL**
3 **REQUIREMENTS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—During the 10-year period begin-
5 ning on the date of the enactment of this section, a haz-
6 ardous fuel reduction activity carried out on Federal
7 land—

8 (1) shall not be considered a major Federal ac-
9 tion for the purposes of section 102(2)(C) of the Na-
10 tional Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.
11 4332(2)(C)); and

12 (2) may be carried out without regard to the
13 provisions of law specified in subsection (b).

14 (b) PROVISIONS OF LAW SPECIFIED.—The provisions
15 of law specified in this subsection are all Federal laws,
16 regulations, and legal requirements of, deriving from, or
17 related to the subject of the following laws:

18 (1) The Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16
19 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

20 (2) Division A of subtitle III of title 54, United
21 States Code (commonly referred to as the “National
22 Historic Preservation Act”).

23 (3) The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C.
24 703 et seq.).

25 (4) The Migratory Bird Conservation Act (16
26 U.S.C. 715 et seq.).

1 (c) CLEAN AIR ACT AMENDMENT.—Section 319 of
 2 the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7619) is amended by adding
 3 at the end the following:

4 “(c) CERTAIN AIR QUALITY MONITORING DATA EX-
 5 CLUDED.—In the event a hazardous fuel reduction activity
 6 (as that term is defined in section 2(d) of the Green Tape
 7 Elimination Act of 2025) is carried out that the Adminis-
 8 trator determines has a significant impact on air quality,
 9 the Administrator shall exclude air quality monitoring
 10 data that is directly due to such hazardous fuel reduction
 11 activity from use in determinations by the Administrator
 12 with respect to exceedances or violations of the national
 13 ambient air quality standard for any air pollutant.”.

14 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 (1) HAZARDOUS FUEL.—The term “hazardous
 16 fuel” means any vegetative material that is suscep-
 17 tible to burning, including—

18 (A) trees;

19 (B) grasses;

20 (C) shrubs;

21 (D) sagebrush;

22 (E) chaparral; and

23 (F) any dead vegetative material on or
 24 near the ground.

1 (2) HAZARDOUS FUEL REDUCTION ACTIVITY.—

2 The term “hazardous fuel reduction activity” means
3 an activity the purpose of which is—

4 (A) the installation of—

5 (i) a natural or manmade change in
6 fuel characteristics that affects fire behav-
7 ior such that a fire can be more readily
8 controlled (commonly known as a “fuel
9 break”); or

10 (ii) a natural or constructed barrier
11 used to stop or check a fire or to provide
12 a control line from which to work to stop
13 or check a fire (commonly known as a
14 “firebreak”); or

15 (B) to reduce hazardous fuels, including—

16 (i) prescribed fire;

17 (ii) wildland fire use; and

18 (iii) the use of mechanical methods
19 such as crushing, tractor and hand piling,
20 thinning, pruning, cutting, or otherwise re-
21 moving hazardous fuels.

○