

I voted Yes on S. 278, the Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District Land Exchange Act.

S. 278 authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a land exchange with the Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District located in Boulder, Colorado. The fire district would receive five acres of federal land on which its fire stations sit in exchange for giving the U.S. Forest Service land of equal value.

Since the 1960s, the Forest Service has issued special use permits to the Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District to operate two fire stations within the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests. The local district would like to own the parcels in order to build an area for firefighter training and bathroom facilities. Currently, the fire stations do not have running water.

I support this simple and cost-free land exchange to better enable this fire district to carry out their duties within the national forest. The Congressional Budget Office says the bill has no federal budget effect and that administrative costs would be paid by the Sugar Loaf Fire Protection District.

The bill was approved by a vote of 413 – 0.