



“While the truck was on fire, the oil from the engine got all over us and the flame was on us, but it never burned through the material [of the Flame Resistant Army Combat Uniform].”

—1st Sgt. Norman Sather, 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment

FR-ACU SPECIFICATIONS

Component materials: 65 percent FR rayon, 25 percent para-aramid, and 10 percent nylon that is treated to be wrinkle-free

Color: Universal camouflage pattern

Size: 37 coat sizes, 36 trouser sizes

Status: Deploying forces are being issued four FR uniforms.

SOURCE: U.S. ARMY—[HTTPS://PEOSOLDIER.ARMY.MIL/FACTSHEETS/PMSEQ/SEQ_CIE_ACUFR.PDF](https://peosoldier.army.mil/factsheets/pmseq/seq_cie_acufr.pdf)

YES ON ISAKSON AMENDMENT

Flame Resistant Uniforms: Look at the Facts

Senator Isakson's amendment to the FY10 NDAA would to remove the sunset clause from a Berry Amendment waiver for flame resistant rayon. This speciality raw material is a critical component of the flame resistant uniforms the Army and Marines field to dismounted ground troops. These uniforms are made in America, and they are saving lives.

★ **Our Troops Deserve the Best Protection.**

The Army faced a problem: burn injuries from IEDs. The Army tested 24 solutions. The Army chose the best performing solution. The Army fielded that solution—a uniform made from a blend of 65% flame resistant (FR) rayon. This uniform has saved lives and prevented horrific injuries. We should congratulate the Army for their actions in developing and fielding this lifesaving equipment.

We owe it to the troops to give them the best equipment. Let the Army decide what is the best for the Soldier—if they find a better solution, they will adopt it. **Vote ‘YES’ to ensure troops’ continued access to the best flame resistant uniforms.**

★ **Importing a Raw Material Feeds a Vibrant U.S. Industrial Base.**

The Berry Amendment works. Smart waivers—like the one for FR rayon—make it work better. Enacting this waiver created U.S. textile jobs. Jobs in spinning, weaving, dying, cutting and sewing. Jobs that depend on the ability to import a specialty raw material from a U.S. ally—Austria. A raw material that isn’t made here. **Vote ‘YES’ to support American textile jobs.**

★ **We Need a Permanent Waiver. Now.**

The current waiver lasts until FY13. Why do we need to eliminate the sunset now? The sunset clause creates uncertainty. Defense program planning will look at FY13 in the very near future. If the waiver is uncertain, no funds will be programmed. Companies, too, make investment decisions on a long time horizon. Building a new plant or expanding an existing one requires business certainty. The sunset clause, then, hampers job-creating investments. **Vote ‘YES’ on the Isakson Amendment.**

BOTTOM LINE: The Army selected the most wearable and durable solution. They selected the solution that performed best in burn testing. A raw material component of the solution isn’t made here; the rest of the uniform is, and it supports American textile jobs.