

HR 1835

National Security Readiness Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Apr 29, 2003

Current Status: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 77.

Latest Action: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 77. (Jun 13, 2003)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/1835>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Gallegly, Elton [R-CA-24]

Party: Republican • State: CA • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Gibbons, Jim [R-NV-2]	R · NV		Apr 29, 2003
Rep. Pombo, Richard W. [R-CA-11]	R · CA		Apr 29, 2003
Rep. Young, Don [R-AK-At Large]	R · AK		Apr 29, 2003
Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4]	R · OK		May 6, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred to	May 20, 2003
Natural Resources Committee	House	Reported By	May 14, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

National Security Readiness Act of 2003 - Amends the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior (or the Secretary of Commerce, as appropriate) from designating as critical habitat any land or geographical area controlled by the Department of Defense, or designated for its use, that is subject to an integrated natural resources management plan for a military installation under the Sikes Act, if the Secretary determines that the plan addresses special management considerations or protections.

Amends the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA) to redefine the term "harassment" as it relates to marine mammals to limit the meaning of: (1) any act that has the potential to injure a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild to any act that has the significant potential to cause such an injury; and (2) any act that disturbs or is likely to disturb a marine mammal or marine mammal stock in the wild by causing a disruption of natural behavioral patterns to causing such a disruption to the point where such behavioral patterns are abandoned or significantly altered.

Authorizes the Secretary of Defense, after conferring with the Secretary of Commerce or the Secretary of the Interior (as appropriate), to exempt any action undertaken by the Department of Defense from requirements of the MMPA, if the Secretary of Defense determines that the action is necessary for national defense. Limits such exemption to a renewable two-year period.

Repeals the limitation to a specified geographical region or a region of small numbers of any allowance of incidental, but not intentional, taking of marine mammals by U.S. citizens engaged in a specified activity (including a military readiness activity) other than commercial fishing.

Exempts the Secretary of the Interior (or, as appropriate, the Secretary of the department in which the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is operating) from the requirement to publish notice (except in the Federal Register) with respect to incidental takings of marine mammals and marine mammal products while engaged in military readiness activities authorized by the Secretary of Defense. (Currently, the appropriate Secretary is required to publish notice also in newspapers of general circulation, and through electronic media, in the coastal areas that may be affected.)

Limits the Department of Defense responsibility under ESA for water consumption impacts on critical habitats or endangered species to: (1) water consumption occurring on a military installation, whether the source of the water consumed is located on or off the installation; or (2) water consumption occurring off of a military installation and the source of the water is under the direct control of the Department of Defense. (Exempts military installations from certain ESA requirements regarding official actions or agency actions with respect to civilian water consumption impacts on critical habitats or endangered species.) States that nothing shall prohibit a military installation from voluntarily undertaking efforts to mitigate water use and consumption.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 13, 2003:** Committee on Armed Services discharged.
- **Jun 13, 2003:** Committee on Armed Services discharged.
- **Jun 13, 2003:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 77.
- **May 20, 2003:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Readiness.
- **May 14, 2003:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Resources. H. Rept. 108-99, Part I.
- **May 14, 2003:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Resources. H. Rept. 108-99, Part I.
- **May 14, 2003:** House Committee on Armed Services Granted an extension for further consideration ending not later than June 13, 2003.
- **May 7, 2003:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **May 7, 2003:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 25 - 13.
- **May 6, 2003:** Committee Hearings Held.
- **Apr 29, 2003:** Introduced in House
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- **Apr 29, 2003:** Referred to the Committee on Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, 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.
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