

HR 254

To authorize the President of the United States to agree to certain amendments to the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Mexican States concerning the establishment of a Border Environment Cooperation Commission and a North American Development Bank, and for other purposes.

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)
Chamber: House
Policy Area: International Affairs
Introduced: Jan 8, 2003
Current Status: Became Public Law No: 108-215.
Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 108-215. (Apr 5, 2004)
Law: 108-215 (Enacted Apr 5, 2004)
Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/254>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Bereuter, Doug [R-NE-1]
Party: Republican • **State:** NE • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bonilla, Henry [R-TX-23]	R · TX		Jan 8, 2003
Rep. Gonzalez, Charles A. [D-TX-20]	D · TX		Jan 8, 2003
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-7]	D · AZ		Jan 8, 2003
Rep. Hinojosa, Ruben [D-TX-15]	D · TX		Jan 8, 2003
Rep. Ortiz, Solomon P. [D-TX-27]	D · TX		Jan 8, 2003
Rep. Ose, Doug [R-CA-3]	R · CA		Jan 8, 2003
Rep. Reyes, Silvestre [D-TX-16]	D · TX		Jan 8, 2003
Rep. Rodriguez, Ciro D. [D-TX-28]	D · TX		Jan 8, 2003
Rep. Royce, Edward R. [R-CA-40]	R · CA		Jan 8, 2003
Rep. Kolbe, Jim [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		Jan 29, 2003
Rep. Frank, Barney [D-MA-4]	D · MA		Feb 12, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Financial Services Committee	House	Reported By	Feb 25, 2003
Foreign Relations Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Mar 12, 2004

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 S 449	Related bill	Feb 26, 2003: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (text of measure as introduced: CR S2841)

Summary (as of Apr 5, 2004)

(This measure has not been amended since it was passed by the Senate on March 12, 2004. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

(Sec. 1) Amends the North American Free Trade Agreement Implementation Act to authorize the President to agree to amendments to the Border Environment Cooperation Agreement (the November 1993 Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Mexican States Concerning the Establishment of a Border Environment Cooperation Commission and a North American Development Bank) that: (1) enable the North American Development Bank to make grants and non-market rate loans out of its paid-in capital resources with the approval of its Board of Directors for qualified water conservation projects; and (2) amend the definition of "border region" as it relates to such projects to include specified areas in the United States and Mexico that are within 300 kilometers of the international boundary between the two countries.

(Sec. 2) Directs the Secretary of the Treasury to report annually to certain congressional committees on the North American Development Bank, addressing specified issues.

Directs the President to instruct the U.S. representative on the Board of Directors of the North American Development Bank to oppose, with exceptions, any proposal where grants out of paid-in capital resources would: (1) be made to a project that is not being financed, in part, by loans; or (2) account for more than 50 percent of any individual project.

(Sec. 3) Expresses the sense of Congress that: (1) water conservation projects are eligible for funding from the Bank under the Cooperation Agreement; and (2) the Board of Directors of the Bank should support qualified water conservation projects which can assist Texas irrigators and agricultural producers in the lower Rio Grande River Valley.

(Sec. 4) Expresses the sense of Congress that the Bank should support: (1) the development of qualified water conservation projects in southern California and other eligible areas in the four U.S. border States (California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas), including the conjunctive use and storage of surface water and groundwater, delivery system conservation, the re-regulation of reservoirs, improved irrigation practices, wastewater reclamation, regional water management modeling, operational and optimization studies to improve water conservation, and cross-border water exchanges consistent with treaties; and (2) new water supply research and projects along the Mexico border in southern California and other eligible areas in the four U.S. border States to desalinate ocean seawater and brackish surface water and groundwater, and dispose of or manage the brines resulting from desalination.

(Sec. 5) Expresses the sense of Congress that the Bank Board should: (1) take into consideration the needs of all of the border states before approving funding for water conservation projects; and (2) strive to fund such projects in each of such states.

(Sec. 6) Expresses the sense of Congress that the Bank Board should support the financing of projects, on both sides of the international boundary between the United States and Mexico, which address: (1) coastal issues and the problem of pollution in both countries having an environmental impact along their Pacific Ocean and Gulf of Mexico shores; and (2) air pollution.

Actions Timeline

- **Apr 5, 2004:** Signed by President.
- **Apr 5, 2004:** Signed by President.
- **Apr 5, 2004:** Became Public Law No: 108-215.
- **Apr 5, 2004:** Became Public Law No: 108-215.
- **Mar 30, 2004:** Presented to President.
- **Mar 30, 2004:** Presented to President.
- **Mar 25, 2004:** Resolving differences -- House actions: On motion that the House suspend the rules and agree to the Senate amendment Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 377 - 48 (Roll no. 87).(consideration: CR H1494-1495; text as House agreed to Senate amendment: CR 3/24/2004 H1388-1389)
- **Mar 25, 2004:** On motion that the House suspend the rules and agree to the Senate amendment Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 377 - 48 (Roll no. 87). (consideration: CR H1494-1495; text as House agreed to Senate amendment: CR 3/24/2004 H1388-1389)
- **Mar 25, 2004:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Mar 24, 2004:** Mr. Bereuter moved that the House suspend the rules and agree to the Senate amendment. (consideration: CR H1388-1393)
- **Mar 24, 2004:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the Senate amendment to H.R. 254.
- **Mar 24, 2004:** At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5, rule I, the chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- **Mar 12, 2004:** Senate Committee on Foreign Relations discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- **Mar 12, 2004:** Senate Committee on Foreign Relations discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- **Mar 12, 2004:** Measure laid before Senate. (consideration: CR S2755-2756)
- **Mar 12, 2004:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Mar 12, 2004:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent.
- **Mar 12, 2004:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Feb 27, 2003:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.
- **Feb 26, 2003:** Mrs. Biggert moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Feb 26, 2003:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H1343-1351)
- **Feb 26, 2003:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 254.
- **Feb 26, 2003:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text of measure as passed House: CR H1343-1344)
- **Feb 26, 2003:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text of measure as passed House: CR H1343-1344)
- **Feb 26, 2003:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Feb 25, 2003:** Reported by the Committee on Financial Services. H. Rept. 108-17.
- **Feb 25, 2003:** Reported by the Committee on Financial Services. H. Rept. 108-17.
- **Feb 25, 2003:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 11.
- **Feb 13, 2003:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Feb 13, 2003:** Ordered to be Reported.
- **Jan 8, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 8, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 8, 2003:** Referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.