

S 1883

EMPOWER Act

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Oct 18, 2005

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (Oct 18, 2005)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/1883>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Hatch, Orrin G. [R-UT]

Party: Republican • State: UT • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Baucus, Max [D-MT]	D · MT		Oct 18, 2005
Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]	R · MS		Nov 17, 2005

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Referred To	Oct 18, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Empowering More Property Owners With Enhanced Rights Act of 2005 or EMPOWER Act - Amends the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 to require a federal agency when acquiring real property to provide to a property owner with: (1) at the beginning of the negotiation process, the current contact information for the Office of the Property Rights Ombudsperson; (2) a description of available mediation and other dispute resolution alternatives; and (3) in specified cases, a copy of the appraisal.

Establishes the Office of the Property Rights Ombudsperson to: (1) at the request of a federal or state agency, advise the agency with respect to actions that may affect property rights; (2) advise private property owners that have a legitimate potential or actual claim against a federal agency involving property rights; and (3) if appropriate, and if requested by a private property owner, mediate or arrange arbitration for disputes between private property owners and federal agencies that involve property rights, eminent domain, or relocation assistance under the Act.

Sets forth requirements for arbitration and mediation requested by a private property owner and arranged by the Property Rights Ombudsperson.

Authorizes the establishment of other federal and state offices of property rights ombudspersons.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Oct 18, 2005:** Introduced in Senate
- **Oct 18, 2005:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S11479-11480)
- **Oct 18, 2005:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.