

Bill Fact Sheet – December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/110/hr/986

HR 986

Eightmile Wild and Scenic River Act

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Feb 12, 2007

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (Aug 3, 2007)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/house-bill/986

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]

Party: Democratic • State: CT • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3]	D · CT		Feb 12, 2007
Rep. Larson, John B. [D-CT-1]	D · CT		Feb 12, 2007
Rep. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT-5]	D · CT		Feb 12, 2007
Rep. Shays, Christopher [R-CT-4]	R · CT		Feb 12, 2007

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Referred To	Aug 4, 2007
Natural Resources Committee	House	Reported by	Apr 19, 2007

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 S 553	Related bill	Jun 11, 2008: Indefinitely postponed by Senate by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S5530)
110 S 2739	Related bill	May 8, 2008: Became Public Law No: 110-229.
110 HRES 580	Procedurally related	Jul 30, 2007: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

(This measure has not been amended since it was reported to the House on July 31, 2007. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Eightmile Wild and Scenic River Act - Amends the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate as a component of the national wild and scenic rivers system (the system) certain segments of the main stem and specified tributaries of the Eightmile River, Connecticut.

Declares that such segments shall be managed in accordance with the Eightmile River Watershed Management Plan and such amendments as the Secretary of the Interior determines are consistent with this Act.

Deems the Plan to satisfy the requirements for a comprehensive management plan required under the Act.

Instructs the Secretary to coordinate management responsibilities regarding the Eightmile River with the Eightmile Coordinating Committee, as specified in the Plan.

Allows the Secretary to enter into cooperative agreements for administration and for assistance, advice, and cooperation to plan, protect, and manage river resources with the state of Connecticut, the towns of Salem, Lyme, and East Haddam, and appropriate local planning and environmental organizations. Requires the agreements to be consistent with the Plan and allows provisions for federal assistance.

Prohibits the Eightmile River from being administered as part of the National Park System or being subject to related regulations.

Deems: (1) the zoning ordinances adopted by the towns, in effect as of December 8, 2005, to satisfy the standards and requirements under the Act regarding the prohibition on federal acquisition of lands by condemnation for inclusion in any wild, scenic, or recreational river area; and (2) such towns to be "villages" for such purposes. Limits the authority of the Secretary to acquire lands for purposes of the Act to acquisition by donation or acquisition with the owner's consent and subjects it to the additional criteria set forth in the Plan.

Recognizes specified tributaries of the Eightmile River watershed as integral to the protection and enhancement of the river and watershed.

Authorizes appropriations.

Actions Timeline

- Aug 3, 2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
- Aug 1, 2007: Received in the Senate.
- Jul 31, 2007: Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H9223-9225)
- Jul 31, 2007: DEBATE The House resumed debate on H.R. 986.
- Jul 31, 2007: The previous question was ordered pursuant to the rule. (consideration: CR H9223)
- Jul 31, 2007: Mr. Pearce moved to recommit with instructions to Natural Resources. (consideration: CR H9223-9225; text: CR H9223)
- Jul 31, 2007: DEBATE The House proceeded with 10 minutes of debate on the Pearce motion to recommit with instructions. The instructions contained in the motion seek to require the bill to be reported back to the House forthwith with an amendment to prohibit federal funds to be used to condemn land to carry out the purposes of this Act or the amendment mabe by subsection (b).".
- Jul 31, 2007: The previous question on the motion to recommit with instructions was ordered without objection. (consideration: CR H9225)
- Jul 31, 2007: On motion to recommit with instructions Failed by the Yeas and Nays: 200 225 (Roll no. 766). (consideration: CR H9229)
- Jul 31, 2007: Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H9225-9226)
- Jul 31, 2007: Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 253 172 (Roll No. 767).(text: CR H8951-8952)
- Jul 31, 2007: On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 253 172 (Roll No. 767). (text: CR H8951-8952)
- Jul 31, 2007: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- Jul 30, 2007: Rule H. Res. 580 passed House.
- Jul 30, 2007: Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 580. (consideration: CR 7/31/2007 H8950-8957; text of measure as introduced: CR H8950-8951)
- Jul 30, 2007: Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 986 with 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. Measure will be considered read. Bill is closed to amendments.
- Jul 30, 2007: DEBATE The House proceeded with one hour of debate on H.R. 986.
- Jul 27, 2007: Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 580 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 986 with 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. Measure will be considered read. Bill is closed to amendments.
- Jul 11, 2007: Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H7627-7628)
- Jul 11, 2007: Failed of passage/not agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Failed by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 239 173 (Roll no. 615).(text: CR 7/10/2007 CR H7440-7441)
- Jul 11, 2007: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Failed by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 239 173 (Roll no. 615). (text: CR 7/10/2007 CR H7440-7441)
- Jul 11, 2007: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- Jul 10, 2007: Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. 110-220.
- Jul 10, 2007: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 136.
- Jul 10, 2007: Mr. Sarbanes moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- Jul 10, 2007: Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H7440-7443)
- Jul 10, 2007: DEBATE The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 986.
- Jul 10, 2007: At the conclusion of debate, the Yeas and Nays were demanded and ordered. Pursuant to the provisions of clause 8, rule XX, the Chair announced that further proceedings on the motion would be postponed.
- May 2, 2007: Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- May 2, 2007: Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- Apr 19, 2007: Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- Apr 19, 2007: Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee (Amended) by Voice Vote .
- Apr 17, 2007: Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- Feb 15, 2007: Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands.
- Feb 12, 2007: Introduced in House
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