

HR 2729

To authorize the designation of National Environmental Research Parks by the Secretary of Energy, and for other purposes.

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Jun 4, 2009

Current Status: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy. Hearings held.

Latest Action: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy. Hearings held. (Dec 8, 2009)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/2729>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM-3]

Party: Democratic • **State:** NM • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Baird, Brian [D-WA-3]	D · WA		Jun 15, 2009
Rep. Biggert, Judy [R-IL-13]	R · IL		Jun 16, 2009
Rep. Lipinski, Daniel [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Jun 16, 2009
Rep. Giffords, Gabrielle [D-AZ-8]	D · AZ		Jun 19, 2009
Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]	D · TX		Jul 13, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Dec 8, 2009
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Reported by	Jun 16, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Requires the Department of Energy (DOE) to designate as protected outdoor research reserves for the purpose of conducting long-term environmental research on the impacts of human activities on the natural environment: (1) Savannah River National Environmental Research Park; (2) Idaho National Environmental Research Park; (3) Los Alamos National Environmental Research Park; (4) Fermi Lab National Environmental Research Park; (5) Oak Ridge National Environmental Research Park; and (6) Nevada National Environmental Research Park.

Requires each site to support environmental research and monitoring activities to characterize and monitor site conditions and serve as control areas for comparison with environmental impacts of DOE land management, energy technology development, remediation, and other site activities outside the Park areas. Authorizes areas of research and monitoring on the sites to include: (1) ecology of the site and the region; (2) population biology and ecology; (3) radioecology; (4) effects of climate variability and change on ecosystems; (5) ecosystem science; (6) pollution fate and transport research; (7) surface and groundwater modeling; (8) student training; and (9) environmental impacts of development and use of energy generation technologies, including renewable energy technologies.

Requires DOE to enter into a cooperative agreement with a university, community college, or consortium of institutions of higher education with expertise in ecology and environmental science of the region in which the Park is located to ensure the independence of the research, monitoring, public education, and outreach activities.

Requires each site to support an outreach program to inform the public of the diverse ecological activities conducted and to educate students at various levels in environmental science.

Requires DOE to designate a National Environmental Research Park Coordinator within the Department of Energy Office of Science to: (1) coordinate research activities among the Parks; (2) ensure that information on best practices for research, education, and outreach activities is shared among the sites; and (3) serve as liaison to other federal agencies to facilitate collaborative work at the Parks.

Authorizes appropriations for FY2010-FY2014.

Authorizes the Parks to be utilized to provide educational opportunities through the Summer Institutes program authorized in the Department of Energy Science Education Enhancement Act.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 8, 2009:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Energy. Hearings held.
- **Jul 22, 2009:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
- **Jul 21, 2009:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H8445-8446)
- **Jul 21, 2009:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 330 - 96 (Roll no. 597).(text: CR 7/20/2009 H8363)
- **Jul 21, 2009:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 330 - 96 (Roll no. 597). (text: CR 7/20/2009 H8363)
- **Jul 21, 2009:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jul 20, 2009:** Mr. Lujan moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jul 20, 2009:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H8362-8364)
- **Jul 20, 2009:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 2729.
- **Jul 20, 2009:** 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.
- **Jul 14, 2009:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Science and Technology. H. Rept. 111-207.
- **Jul 14, 2009:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 113.
- **Jun 24, 2009:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jun 24, 2009:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Jun 16, 2009:** Subcommittee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jun 16, 2009:** Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee (Amended) by Voice Vote .
- **Jun 10, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment.
- **Jun 9, 2009:** Hearings Held by the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment Prior to Referral.
- **Jun 4, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 4, 2009:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E1315-1316)
- **Jun 4, 2009:** Referred to the House Committee on Science and Technology.