

HR 3254

Taos Pueblo Indian Water Rights Settlement Act

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Native Americans

Introduced: Jul 17, 2009

Current Status: Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 266.

Latest Action: Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 266. (Feb 1, 2010)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/house-bill/3254>

Sponsor

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

Party: Democratic • State: NM • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Jul 22, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Discharged from	Sep 30, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Native Americans

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HR 4783	Related bill	Dec 8, 2010: Became Public Law No: 111-291.
111 HRES 1017	Related bill	Jan 20, 2010: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
111 S 965	Identical bill	Jan 20, 2010: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 257.

Taos Pueblo Indian Water Rights Settlement Act - Authorizes, ratifies, and confirms the Settlement Agreement of March 31, 2006, between the United States, the Taos Pueblo, New Mexico, the Taos Valley Acequia Association and its 55 member ditches, Taos, the El Prado Water and Sanitation District (EPWSD), and the 12 Taos area Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Associations, and any amendments executed to make the Agreement consistent with this Act.

Requires water rights to which the Taos Pueblo is entitled under the Partial Final Decree entered in *New Mexico v. Abeyta and New Mexico v. Arellano* to be held in trust by the United States.

Directs the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, to provide: (1) grants and technical assistance to the Pueblo to construct, replace, or rehabilitate water infrastructure, to protect the environment associated with the Buffalo Pasture area, and to enhance watershed conditions; and (2) financial assistance to eligible non-Pueblo entities for mutual-benefit projects in accordance with the Agreement.

Establishes in the Treasury the Taos Pueblo Water Development Fund.

Authorizes the Pueblo to market its water rights under the Agreement.

Directs the Secretary to enter into three repayment contracts for the delivery of specified amounts of San Juan-Chama Project water to the Pueblo, the town of Taos, and EPWSD.

Provides for the waiver and release of claims against the parties to *New Mexico v. Abeyta and New Mexico v. Arellano* in return for recognition of the Pueblo's water rights.

Authorizes appropriations for FY2010-FY2016 for the Taos Pueblo Infrastructure and Watershed Fund, for the Taos Pueblo Water Development Fund, and for Mutual-Benefit Projects funding (to minimize adverse impacts on the Pueblo's water resources by moving future non-Indian ground water pumping away from the Pueblo's Buffalo Pasture and to implement the resolution of a dispute over the allocation of certain surface water flows between the Pueblo and non-Indian irrigation water right owners in the community of Arroyo Seco Arriba).

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 1, 2010:** Read twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 266.
- **Jan 22, 2010:** Received in the Senate.
- **Jan 21, 2010:** Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 1017. (consideration: CR H272-279)
- **Jan 21, 2010:** Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 3254, H.R. 3342 and H.R. 1065. Each bill is allowed 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered, in each instance, without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. Measures will be considered read. Specified amendments are in order, in each instance. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources, in each instance,
- **Jan 21, 2010:** DEBATE - Pursuant to the provisions of H.Res. 1017, the House proceeded with one hour of debate on H.R. 3254.
- **Jan 21, 2010:** The previous question was ordered pursuant to the rule. (consideration: CR H298)
- **Jan 21, 2010:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on H.R. 3254, the Chair put the question on passage and by voice vote, announced the ayes had prevailed. Mr. Rahall demanded the yeas and nays and the Chair postponed further proceedings on the question of passage until a time to be announced.
- **Jan 21, 2010:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H298-299)
- **Jan 21, 2010:** Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 254 - 158 (Roll no. 12).(text: CR H272-275)
- **Jan 21, 2010:** On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 254 - 158 (Roll no. 12). (text: CR H272-275)
- **Jan 21, 2010:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jan 19, 2010:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 1017 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 3254, H.R. 3342 and H.R. 1065. Each bill is allowed 1 hour of general debate. Previous question shall be considered as ordered, in each instance, without intervening motions except motion to recommit with or without instructions. Measures will be considered read. Specified amendments are in order, in each instance. The amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources, in each instance,
- **Jan 12, 2010:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. 111-395.
- **Jan 12, 2010:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 232.
- **Sep 30, 2009:** Subcommittee on Water and Power Discharged.
- **Sep 30, 2009:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Sep 30, 2009:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Sep 9, 2009:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Jul 22, 2009:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water and Power.
- **Jul 17, 2009:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 17, 2009:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.