

## HR 6378

### Air and Health Quality Empowerment Zone Designation Act of 2012

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Environmental Protection

**Introduced:** Sep 12, 2012

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Power.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Power. (Sep 14, 2012)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/6378>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. McNerney, Jerry [D-CA-11]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

## Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-20]	D · CA		Sep 12, 2012

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 14, 2012

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

## Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Air and Health Quality Empowerment Zone Designation Act of 2012 - Allows the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to designate an area as an air and health quality empowerment zone if the air pollution control district or other local governmental entity (area entity) authorized to regulate air quality for the area nominates the area for such designation, including by submitting a strategic plan designed to address air quality challenges, achieve attainment of air quality standards, and improve the health of the population in the area.

Requires a designated area to meet the following criteria: (1) it has been designated as being in extreme nonattainment of the national ambient air quality standard for ozone and in nonattainment of the national ambient air quality standard for PM2.5 (particulate matter diameter); (2) it had nitrogen oxide emissions from farm equipment or emissions of volatile organic compounds from farming in excess of specified limits; (3) it meets or exceeds the national average per capita incidence of asthma; (4) it experiences unemployment rates higher than the national average; and (5) the area entity will provide matching contributions of federal funds toward the activities to be carried out under the strategic plan, which may be in cash or in-kind, fairly evaluated, including plant, equipment, or services.

Makes the effective period of area designation the shorter of 10 years or the period ending with revocation by the Administrator.

Authorizes grants to an area entity on behalf of each air and health quality empowerment zone for the purpose of carrying out the strategic plan submitted under this Act.

Requires a report to Congress on the impact of this Act.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Sep 14, 2012:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Power.
- **Sep 12, 2012:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 12, 2012:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.