HR 657

Grazing Improvement Act

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)
Chamber: House
Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources
Introduced: Feb 13, 2013
Current Status: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 105.
Latest Action: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 105. (Jul 9, 2013)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/657

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Labrador, Raul R. [R-ID-1]
Party: Republican • **State:** ID • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (15 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Amodei, Mark E. [R-NV-2]	R · NV		Feb 13, 2013
Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-16]	D · CA		Feb 13, 2013
Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [R-AZ-4]	R · AZ		Feb 13, 2013
Rep. McClintock, Tom [R-CA-4]	R · CA		Feb 13, 2013
Rep. Noem, Kristi L. [R-SD-At Large]	R · SD		Feb 13, 2013
Rep. Simpson, Michael K. [R-ID-2]	R · ID		Feb 13, 2013
Rep. Thompson, Glenn [R-PA-5]	R · PA		Feb 13, 2013
Rep. Tipton, Scott R. [R-CO-3]	R · CO		Feb 13, 2013
Rep. Walden, Greg [R-OR-2]	R · OR		Feb 13, 2013
Rep. Daines, Steve [R-MT-At Large]	R · MT		Feb 25, 2013
Rep. Lummis, Cynthia M. [R-WY-At Large]	R · WY		Feb 25, 2013
Rep. Pearce, Stevan [R-NM-2]	R · NM		Feb 25, 2013
Rep. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		Mar 4, 2013
Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1]	R · CA		Apr 23, 2013
Rep. Stewart, Chris [R-UT-2]	R · UT		Apr 24, 2013

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 1, 2013
Natural Resources Committee	House	Discharged from	Jun 12, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 S 258	Related bill	**May 22, 2014:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 392.
113 HR 2954	Related bill	**Feb 10, 2014:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Summary (as of Jul 9, 2013)

Grazing Improvement Act - Amends the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (the Act) to double from 10 to 20 years the period of a term for grazing permits and leases for domestic livestock grazing on public lands or lands within national forests in 16 contiguous western states. Permits the issuance of permits and leases for a period shorter than 20 years (under current law, shorter than 10 years), including where the Secretary concerned determines that the initial environmental analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) regarding a grazing allotment, permit, or lease has not been completed.

Permits only applicants, permittees, and lessees whose interest in grazing livestock is directly affected by a final grazing decision to appeal such decision to an administrative law judge.

Directs that grazing permits or leases issued by the Secretary of the Interior respecting lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior and grazing permits issued by the Secretary of Agriculture (USDA) respecting National Forest System lands that expire, are transferred, or are waived after this Act's enactment be renewed or reissued, as appropriate, under the Act, the Granger-Thye Act, the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, or the California Desert Protection Act of 1994.

Excludes the renewal, reissuance, or transfer of a grazing permit or lease by the Secretary concerned from the NEPA requirement to prepare an environmental analysis if: (1) such decision continues to renew, reissue, or transfer current grazing management of the allotment; (2) monitoring indicates that such management meets objectives contained in the land use and resource management plan of the allotment; or (3) the decision is consistent with the policy of the Department of the Interior or USDA regarding extraordinary circumstances.

Gives the Secretary concerned the sole discretion to determine the priority and timing for completing each required environmental analysis regarding any grazing allotment, permit, or lease based on the environmental significance of such authorization and available funding.

Makes NEPA inapplicable to domestic livestock crossing and trailing authorizations, transfers of grazing preference, and range improvements.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 9, 2013:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. 113-145, Part I.
- **Jul 9, 2013:** Committee on Agriculture discharged.
- **Jul 9, 2013:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 105.
- **Jun 12, 2013:** Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation Discharged.
- **Jun 12, 2013:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jun 12, 2013:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 27 - 15.
- **Apr 18, 2013:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Mar 1, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation, Energy, and Forestry.
- **Feb 22, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Public Lands and Environmental Regulation.
- **Feb 13, 2013:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 13, 2013:** Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

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