

HR 212

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide for the assessment and management of the risk of algal toxins in drinking water, and for other purposes.

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Jan 8, 2015

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 114-45.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 114-45. (Aug 7, 2015)

Law: 114-45 (Enacted Aug 7, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/212>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Latta, Robert E. [R-OH-5]

Party: Republican • **State:** OH • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		Jan 8, 2015
Rep. Miller, Candice S. [R-MI-10]	R · MI		Jan 8, 2015
Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Jan 8, 2015
Rep. Joyce, David P. [R-OH-14]	R · OH		Feb 10, 2015
Rep. McKinley, David B. [R-WV-1]	R · WV		Feb 10, 2015
Rep. Murphy, Tim [R-PA-18]	R · PA		Feb 10, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Jan 9, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 1709	Related bill	Mar 27, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy.
114 S 460	Related bill	Feb 11, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

(This measure has not been amended since it was passed by the House on February 24, 2015. The summary of that version is repeated here.)

Drinking Water Protection Act

(Sec. 2) This bill amends the Safe Drinking Water Act to direct the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop and submit to Congress a strategic plan for assessing and managing risks associated with algal toxins in drinking water provided by public water systems. Cyanobacteria, also known as blue-green algae, have the ability to produce cyanotoxins, or algal toxins. When certain conditions are favorable, algae can rapidly multiply causing blooms, or dense surface scums, that may be toxic.

The plan must include steps and time lines to:

- evaluate the risk to human health from drinking water contaminated with algal toxins;
- establish, publish, and update a comprehensive list of algal toxins that may have an adverse effect on human health, taking into account likely exposure levels;
- summarize the known adverse human health effects of algal toxins and the factors that cause toxin-producing cyanobacteria and algae to grow rapidly and make toxins;
- determine whether to publish health advisories for algal toxins and establish guidance regarding feasible analytical methods to quantify the presence of algal toxins and guidance regarding the frequency of monitoring necessary to determine if the algal toxins are present;
- recommend feasible treatment options, including procedures, equipment, and source water protection practices; and
- enter into cooperative agreements with, and provide technical assistance to, affected states and public water systems to manage risks associated with algal toxins.

The EPA must update and resubmit the plan as appropriate.

The EPA must identify gaps in its understanding of algal toxins. It must also assemble and publish information from each agency that has examined or analyzed cyanobacteria or algal toxins or addressed public health concerns related to harmful algal blooms.

The Government Accountability Office must submit to Congress an inventory of funds expended by the United States for each of FY2010 through 2014 to examine or analyze toxin-producing cyanobacteria and algae or address public health concerns related to harmful algal blooms. The inventory must include the specific purpose for which the funds were made available, the law under which the funds were authorized, and the agency that received or spent the funds.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 7, 2015:** Signed by President.
- **Aug 7, 2015:** Became Public Law No: 114-45.
- **Aug 6, 2015:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Aug 6, 2015:** Presented to President.
- **Aug 5, 2015:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Voice Vote.(consideration: CR S6348-6349)
- **Aug 5, 2015:** Passed Senate without amendment by Voice Vote. (consideration: CR S6348-6349)
- **Feb 25, 2015:** Received in the Senate, read twice.
- **Feb 24, 2015:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Energy and Commerce. H. Rept. 114-26.
- **Feb 24, 2015:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 18.
- **Feb 24, 2015:** Mr. Latta moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Feb 24, 2015:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H1094-1095)
- **Feb 24, 2015:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 212.
- **Feb 24, 2015:** 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.
- **Feb 24, 2015:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H1100-1101)
- **Feb 24, 2015:** 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): 375 - 37 (Roll no. 84).(text: CR H1094)
- **Feb 24, 2015:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Feb 24, 2015:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 375 - 37 (Roll no. 84). (text: CR H1094)
- **Feb 24, 2015:** The title of the measure was amended. Agreed to without objection.
- **Jan 9, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy.
- **Jan 8, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 8, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.