

HR 2809

Great Lakes Water Protection Act

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Jun 17, 2015

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment. (Jun 18, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/2809>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Dold, Robert J. [R-IL-10]

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

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Lipinski, Daniel [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Jun 17, 2015
Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Jun 17, 2015
Rep. Miller, Candice S. [R-MI-10]	R · MI		Jun 24, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 18, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 2132	Related bill	Oct 6, 2015: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 251.
114 S 1645	Related bill	Jun 23, 2015: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 126.
114 S 1586	Identical bill	Jun 16, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Great Lakes Water Protection Act

This bill amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (commonly known as the Clean Water Act) to prohibit a publicly owned treatment works (POTW) from discharging untreated or partially treated sewage into the Great Lakes or a tributary of the Great Lakes when the discharge is the result of the POTW intentionally diverting waste streams to bypass any portion of a treatment facility. A bypass is allowed if: (1) it is unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage, there is no feasible alternative, and the treatment works provides notice; or (2) it does not cause effluent (waste) limitations to be exceeded and is for essential maintenance to ensure efficient operation of the treatment facility.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must work with relevant states to create requirements for providing immediate notice to the public about discharges.

The EPA must establish procedures to ensure that permits issued to POTWs under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System include requirements to comply with this bill.

This bill establishes a maximum civil penalty of \$100,000 per day for violations of the bill occurring on or after January 1, 2035. The penalties must be deposited into the Great Lakes Cleanup Fund, which is established by this bill. The Fund must be used for improving wastewater discharges.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 18, 2015:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.
- **Jun 17, 2015:** Introduced in House
- **Jun 17, 2015:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H4448)
- **Jun 17, 2015:** Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.