

## HR 6022

### New WATER Act

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Water Resources Development

**Introduced:** Sep 14, 2016

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans. (Sep 20, 2016)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/6022>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Denham, Jeff [R-CA-10]

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

### Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 20, 2016

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Water Resources Development

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 5247	Related bill	Sep 30, 2016: Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment.
114 S 2533	Related bill	May 17, 2016: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Senate Subcommittee on Water and Power. Hearings held. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 114-495.
114 S 1894	Related bill	Oct 8, 2015: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-381.
114 HR 2983	Related bill	Aug 18, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment.
114 S 1837	Related bill	Jul 22, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
114 HR 291	Related bill	Mar 2, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans.
114 S 176	Related bill	Jan 13, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

## **New Water Available To Every Reclamation State Act or the New WATER Act**

This bill authorizes the Department of the Interior, for 15 years after this bill's enactment, to provide financial assistance, such as secured loans or loan guarantees, to entities that contract under federal reclamation law to carry out water projects within the 17 western states served by the Bureau of Reclamation, other states where the Bureau is authorized to provide project assistance, Alaska, and Hawaii. Projects eligible for assistance include:

- non-federal water infrastructure projects that would contribute to a safe, adequate water supply for domestic, agricultural, environmental, or municipal and industrial use;
- projects for enhanced energy efficiency in the operation of a water system;
- projects for accelerated repair and replacement of aging water distribution facilities;
- brackish or sea water desalination projects; and
- the acquisition of real property or an interest therein for water storage, reclaimed or recycled water, or wastewater that is integral to such a project.

To be eligible for assistance, a project must be deemed creditworthy. Eligible project costs must be reasonably anticipated to be at least \$20 million.

Interior shall establish criteria for project selection and may enter into a master credit agreement for projects secured by a common security pledge on terms acceptable to it.

Interior may enter into agreements with obligors to make secured loans to finance or refinance eligible project costs or to refinance long-term project obligations or federal credit instruments to provide additional funding capacity for the completion, enhancement, or expansion of a project.

The total amount of federal assistance for a project shall not exceed 80% of its total cost.

Interior shall establish: (1) a repayment schedule for each secured loan based on the useful life of the project, and (2) a uniform system to service the federal credit instruments made available under this bill.

Interior shall report biennially on the financial performance of the projects that receive assistance under this bill.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Sep 20, 2016:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans.
- **Sep 14, 2016:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 14, 2016:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.