

S 822

Geothermal Production Expansion Act of 2015

Congress: 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Energy

Introduced: Mar 19, 2015

Current Status: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-118.

Latest Action: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-118. (May 19, 2015)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/822>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]

Party: Democratic • **State:** OR • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Mar 19, 2015
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Mar 19, 2015
Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK]	R · AK		Mar 19, 2015
Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]	R · ID		Mar 19, 2015

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Hearings By (full committee)	May 19, 2015

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Energy

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 S 2012	Related bill	Sep 8, 2016: Conference held.
114 S 2089	Related bill	Sep 29, 2015: Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 241.
114 S 1057	Related bill	May 19, 2015: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-118.
114 HR 1719	Identical bill	Apr 20, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.

Geothermal Production Expansion Act of 2015

This bill amends the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to allow the Department of the Interior to award noncompetitive leases on up to 640 acres of federal land for geothermal development if: (1) the land is available for leasing and not already leased or nominated to be leased, (2) the lessee has a legal right to develop geothermal resources on land adjacent to the federal land that will be leased, (3) sufficient data was submitted to Interior to show there is a valid discovery of geothermal resources on the adjacent land and that the thermal feature extends into the adjoining federal land, and (4) the lessee has not previously received a noncompetitive lease for the discovery.

Interior must lease the land at fair market value, publish a notice of any lease requests, and provide review of the final determination of fair market value.

Lessees must make annual rental payments equal to those required for lands that are leased competitively.

Actions Timeline

- **May 19, 2015:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 114-118.
- **Mar 19, 2015:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 19, 2015:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S1667; text of measure as introduced: CR S1668)