

S 1012

New Mexico Drought Preparedness Act of 2018

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Water Resources Development

Introduced: May 2, 2017

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 645.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 645. (Nov 14, 2018)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1012>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]

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

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		May 2, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Jun 14, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Water Resources Development

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

New Mexico Drought Preparedness Act of 2018

This bill directs the Bureau of Reclamation to carry out a water acquisition program in specified basins in New Mexico, under which Reclamation shall: (1) make acquisitions of water by lease or purchase of water rights or contractual entitlements from willing lessors or sellers, consistent with the Rio Grande Compact and applicable state water rights law; and (2) take other actions to enhance stream flow to benefit fish and wildlife (including endangered species), water quality, and river ecosystem restoration and to enhance stewardship and conservation of working land, water, and watersheds.

Reclamation, in cooperation with the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District, may provide funding and technical assistance for the installation of metering and measurement devices and the construction of check structures to: (1) ensure the conservation and efficient use of water by reducing actual consumptive use or by not increasing the use of water, and (2) improve the measurement and allocation of water.

The National Academy of Sciences shall carry out a study on water and reservoir management and operation issues in specified basins.

The bill authorizes financial assistance to be made available for eligible water projects to help western states and tribal governments address drought-related impacts to water supplies or any other immediate water-related crisis or conflict.

The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 is amended to: (1) authorize the use of water management improvement grants to assist applicants in planning for or addressing the impacts of drought, (2) change to December 31, 2019, the reporting date on the implementation of recommended Rio Grande Pueblo irrigation infrastructure projects, and (3) reauthorize for FY2018-FY2026 the Rio Grande Pueblo irrigation infrastructure grant program.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 14, 2018:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Murkowski with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 115-358.
- **Nov 14, 2018:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 645.
- **Oct 2, 2018:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Jun 14, 2017:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power. Hearings held. With printed Hearing: S.Hrg. 115-38.
- **May 2, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 2, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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