

HR 1179

Discouraging Frivolous Lawsuits Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Feb 16, 2017

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment. (Feb 17, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1179>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Rice, Tom [R-SC-7]

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

Cosponsors (65 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Abraham, Ralph Lee [R-LA-5]	R · LA		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Allen, Rick W. [R-GA-12]	R · GA		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Amodei, Mark E. [R-NV-2]	R · NV		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Arrington, Jodey C. [R-TX-19]	R · TX		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Biggs, Andy [R-AZ-5]	R · AZ		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Brat, Dave [R-VA-7]	R · VA		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Conaway, K. Michael [R-TX-11]	R · TX		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Denham, Jeff [R-CA-10]	R · CA		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Duncan, Jeff [R-SC-3]	R · SC		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Granger, Kay [R-TX-12]	R · TX		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Grothman, Glenn [R-WI-6]	R · WI		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Mooney, Alexander X. [R-WV-2]	R · WV		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Perry, Scott [R-PA-4]	R · PA		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Rokita, Todd [R-IN-4]	R · IN		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Rouzer, David [R-NC-7]	R · NC		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Schweikert, David [R-AZ-6]	R · AZ		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Scott, Austin [R-GA-8]	R · GA		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Stewart, Chris [R-UT-2]	R · UT		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Tiberi, Patrick J. [R-OH-12]	R · OH		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Wilson, Joe [R-SC-2]	R · SC		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Yoho, Ted S. [R-FL-3]	R · FL		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Banks, Jim [R-IN-3]	R · IN		Mar 1, 2017
Rep. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		Mar 1, 2017
Rep. Olson, Pete [R-TX-22]	R · TX		Mar 1, 2017
Rep. Renacci, James B. [R-OH-16]	R · OH		Mar 1, 2017
Rep. Walorski, Jackie [R-IN-2]	R · IN		Mar 1, 2017
Rep. Blum, Rod [R-IA-1]	R · IA		Mar 7, 2017
Rep. Carter, John R. [R-TX-31]	R · TX		Mar 7, 2017
Rep. Chabot, Steve [R-OH-1]	R · OH		Mar 7, 2017
Rep. Cook, Paul [R-CA-8]	R · CA		Mar 7, 2017
Rep. Franks, Trent [R-AZ-8]	R · AZ		Mar 7, 2017
Rep. Harris, Andy [R-MD-1]	R · MD		Mar 7, 2017
Rep. Hollingsworth, Trey [R-IN-9]	R · IN		Mar 7, 2017
Rep. Johnson, Sam [R-TX-3]	R · TX		Mar 7, 2017
Rep. Knight, Stephen [R-CA-25]	R · CA		Mar 7, 2017
Rep. Loudermilk, Barry [R-GA-11]	R · GA		Mar 7, 2017
Rep. Nunes, Devin [R-CA-22]	R · CA		Mar 7, 2017
Rep. Rogers, Harold [R-KY-5]	R · KY		Mar 7, 2017
Rep. Aderholt, Robert B. [R-AL-4]	R · AL		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN-7]	R · TN		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Bridenstine, Jim [R-OK-1]	R · OK		Mar 10, 2017

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Calvert, Ken [R-CA-42]	R · CA		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4]	R · OK		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Flores, Bill [R-TX-17]	R · TX		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Jones, Walter B., Jr. [R-NC-3]	R · NC		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Kelly, Trent [R-MS-1]	R · MS		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Marchant, Kenny [R-TX-24]	R · TX		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. McClintock, Tom [R-CA-4]	R · CA		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. McKinley, David B. [R-WV-1]	R · WV		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Meadows, Mark [R-NC-11]	R · NC		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Palazzo, Steven M. [R-MS-4]	R · MS		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Pearce, Stevan [R-NM-2]	R · NM		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Pittenger, Robert [R-NC-9]	R · NC		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Ross, Dennis A. [R-FL-15]	R · FL		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Smith, Jason [R-MO-8]	R · MO		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Valadao, David G. [R-CA-21]	R · CA		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Weber, Randy K., Sr. [R-TX-14]	R · TX		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Westerman, Bruce [R-AR-4]	R · AR		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Williams, Roger [R-TX-25]	R · TX		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Young, Don [R-AK-At Large]	R · AK		Mar 10, 2017
Rep. Hartzler, Vicky [R-MO-4]	R · MO		Mar 20, 2017
Rep. Trott, David A. [R-MI-11]	R · MI		May 4, 2017
Rep. Farenthold, Blake [R-TX-27]	R · TX		May 22, 2017
Rep. Gianforte, Greg [R-MT-At Large]	R · MT		Aug 15, 2017
Rep. Norman, Ralph [R-SC-5]	R · SC		Oct 10, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 17, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Discouraging Frivolous Lawsuits Act

This bill amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (commonly known as the Clean Water Act) to revise requirements concerning citizen suits. Litigation costs (including reasonable attorney and expert witness fees) must be awarded to the prevailing party, thus the bill removes a court's discretion to award the fees. A prevailing party is defined as the party that prevails on more than half of the claims at issue.

The bill repeals the authority of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to deny or restrict the use of any area as a disposal site for dredged or fill material when the discharge of those materials would have an unacceptable adverse effect on municipal water supplies, shellfish beds and fishery areas, wildlife, or recreational areas.

Current law requires compensatory mitigation to replace the loss of aquatic resource functions in a watershed when a permit to discharge dredged or fill materials into navigable waters has unavoidable impacts on aquatic resources. This bill prohibits government entities from carrying out compensatory mitigation in excess of existing regulatory requirements.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 17, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.
- **Feb 16, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 16, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.