

HR 1758

Brownfields Reauthorization Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Mar 28, 2017

Current Status: Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H. Rept. 115-419, Part I.

Latest Action: Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H. Rept. 115-419, Part I. (Nov 21, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1758>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Esty, Elizabeth H. [D-CT-5]

Party: Democratic • **State:** CT • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. DeFazio, Peter A. [D-OR-4]	D · OR		Mar 28, 2017
Rep. Katko, John [R-NY-24]	R · NY		Mar 28, 2017
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		Mar 28, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Mar 31, 2017
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Discharged from	Jul 27, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 2479	Related bill	May 22, 2018: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy.
115 HR 1625	Related bill	Mar 23, 2018: Became Public Law No: 115-141.
115 HR 3017	Related bill	Dec 1, 2017: Received in the Senate.
115 S 822	Related bill	Sep 7, 2017: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 213.
115 HR 1747	Related bill	Mar 31, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment.

Brownfields Reauthorization Act of 2017

(Sec. 2) This bill modifies the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA) to specify if a state or local government takes title to a brownfield site as a result of law enforcement activity, that government is not an owner or operator for the purposes of CERCLA. (Brownfields are certain commercial properties that are hindered from reuse or redevelopment due to the presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.)

(Sec. 3) The bill modifies brownfield program eligibility with respect to petroleum sites where no viable responsible party exists. Specifically, it eliminates the requirement that sites be of relatively low risk.

(Sec. 4) The bill revises leaseholder status regarding bona fide prospective purchasers.

(Sec. 5) The bill expands CERCLA eligibility for nonprofit organizations and qualified community development entities.

(Sec. 6) The brownfield site characterization and assessment grant program and the brownfield remediation grant and loan program are revised by authorizing eligible governmental entities to receive grants and loans for property that was acquired before January 11, 2002, even if the entities do not qualify as bona fide prospective purchasers.

(Sec. 7) The bill increases the cap on the amount that may be given in grants and loans for each site to be remediated.

(Sec. 8) The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) must establish a program to provide multipurpose grants to carry out inventory, characterization, assessment, planning, or remediation activities at brownfield sites.

(Sec. 9) The bill allows grant recipients to use up to 5% of funds for administrative costs.

(Sec. 10) The bill reauthorizes brownfields revitalization funding through FY2022.

(Sec. 11) The bill reauthorizes state response programs through FY2022.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 21, 2017:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H. Rept. 115-419, Part I.
- **Jul 27, 2017:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jul 27, 2017:** Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment Discharged.
- **Jul 27, 2017:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Mar 31, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment.
- **Mar 29, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.
- **Mar 28, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Mar 28, 2017:** Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.