

## 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 | <b>May 22, 2018:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy.                                      |
| 115 HR 1625 | Related bill | <b>Mar 23, 2018:</b> Became Public Law No: 115-141.   |
| 115 HR 3017 | Related bill | <b>Dec 1, 2017:</b> Received in the Senate.   |
| 115 S 822   | Related bill | <b>Sep 7, 2017:</b> Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 213. |
| 115 HR 1747 | Related bill | <b>Mar 31, 2017:</b> 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

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- **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.