

HR 2693

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to limit attorney fees and penalties in citizen suits, and for other purposes.

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: May 25, 2017

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

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment. (May 26, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/2693>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Hunter, Duncan D. [R-CA-50]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Calvert, Ken [R-CA-42]	R · CA		May 25, 2017
Rep. McClintock, Tom [R-CA-4]	R · CA		May 25, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	May 26, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of May 25, 2017)

This bill amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (commonly known as the Clean Water Act) to limit the amount that may be awarded for the costs of litigation in citizen suits. An award of litigation costs may not exceed: (1) an amount that is proportional to the number of successful claims included in the complaint, or (2) the amount of monetary penalties.

The award of litigation costs must be based on the prevailing rates in the local market area where the violation occurred for the kind and quality of the services furnished.

Citizen suits may not be commenced if the Environmental Protection Agency or a state has commenced and is diligently prosecuting a civil or criminal action through the issuance of a compliance order.

The bill provides for certain affirmative defenses for a person who may be liable for the unlawful discharge of a pollutant under the Clean Water Act.

Actions Timeline

- **May 26, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.
- **May 25, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **May 25, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.