

HR 434

New WATER Act

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Water Resources Development

Introduced: Jan 11, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans. (Feb 7, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/434>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Denham, Jeff [R-CA-10]

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

Cosponsors (9 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Calvert, Ken [R-CA-42]	R · CA		Jan 11, 2017
Rep. Costa, Jim [D-CA-16]	D · CA		Jan 11, 2017
Rep. Garamendi, John [D-CA-3]	D · CA		Jan 11, 2017
Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1]	R · CA		Jan 11, 2017
Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4]	R · WA		Jan 11, 2017
Rep. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND-At Large]	R · ND		Aug 18, 2017
Rep. Knight, Stephen [R-CA-25]	R · CA		Sep 1, 2017
Rep. Valadao, David G. [R-CA-21]	R · CA		Sep 1, 2017
Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4]	R · OK		Sep 8, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 7, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Water Resources Development

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

New Water Available To Every Reclamation State Act or the New WATER Act

This bill authorizes the Department of the Interior, for 15 years after this bill's enactment, to provide financial assistance, such as secured loans or loan guarantees, to entities that contract under federal reclamation law to carry out water projects within the 17 western states served by the Bureau of Reclamation, other states where the Bureau is authorized to provide project assistance, Alaska, and Hawaii. Projects eligible for assistance include:

- non-federal water infrastructure projects that would contribute to a safe, adequate water supply for domestic, agricultural, environmental, or municipal and industrial use;
- projects for enhanced energy efficiency in the operation of a water system;
- projects for accelerated repair and replacement of aging water distribution facilities;
- brackish or sea water desalination projects; and
- the acquisition of real property or an interest therein for water storage, reclaimed or recycled water, or wastewater that is integral to such a project.

To be eligible for assistance, a project must be deemed creditworthy. Eligible project costs must be reasonably anticipated to be at least \$20 million.

Interior shall establish criteria for project selection and may enter into a master credit agreement for projects secured by a common security pledge on terms acceptable to it.

Interior may enter into agreements with obligors to make secured loans to finance or refinance eligible project costs or to refinance long-term project obligations or federal credit instruments to provide additional funding capacity for the completion, enhancement, or expansion of a project.

The total amount of federal assistance for a project shall not exceed 80% of its total cost.

Interior shall establish: (1) a repayment schedule for each secured loan based on the useful life of the project, and (2) a uniform system to service the federal credit instruments made available under this bill.

Interior shall report biennially on the financial performance of the projects that receive assistance under this bill.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 7, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Power and Oceans.
- **Jan 11, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 11, 2017:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.