

S 1751

Bureau of Reclamation Pumped Storage Hydropower Development Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Water Resources Development

Introduced: Jun 5, 2019

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 260.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 260. (Oct 23, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/1751>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]

Party: Democratic • **State:** WA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Reported By	Oct 23, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Water Resources Development

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Bureau of Reclamation Pumped Storage Hydropower Development Act

This bill provides the Department of the Interior exclusive authority to develop hydropower facilities in certain instances and contains other related provisions.

Specifically, Interior shall have exclusive authority to develop small conduit hydropower using Bureau of Reclamation facilities and pumped storage hydropower that exclusively use bureau reservoirs. Currently, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) also has regulatory authority over some of the bureau infrastructure involved in such projects, so some projects require approval from both Interior and FERC.

The bill also imposes various requirements related to certain proposed projects involving specified tribes in Washington State. Before Interior may issue a lease to use power generated from such a project, the parties involved must agree to a study plan that lays out certain information, time lines, and procedures for addressing issues. Such a lease must also meet certain requirements, such as conditions to ensure that the project will not interfere with the tribes' hunting and fishing rights.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 23, 2019:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Murkowski with an amendment. With written report No. 116-140.
- **Oct 23, 2019:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 260.
- **Sep 25, 2019:** Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported with an amendment favorably.
- **Jun 5, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 5, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.