

S 4362

Emergency Water and Energy is a Human Right Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Water Resources Development

Introduced: Jul 29, 2020

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Jul 29, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/4362>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]

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

Cosponsors (13 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jul 29, 2020
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Jul 29, 2020
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Jul 29, 2020
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jul 29, 2020
Sen. Harris, Kamala D. [D-CA]	D · CA		Jul 29, 2020
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 29, 2020
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		Jul 29, 2020
Sen. Murray, Patty [D-WA]	D · WA		Jul 29, 2020
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jul 29, 2020
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 29, 2020
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Aug 3, 2020
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Aug 6, 2020

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jul 29, 2020

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Water Resources Development

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 6552	Related bill	Apr 20, 2020: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.

Emergency Water and Energy is a Human Right Act

This bill creates a grant program, administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, to provide funds to states and Indian tribes to assist low-income households that pay a high proportion of household income for drinking water and wastewater services.

Specifically, states and Indian tribes must provide payments to owners and operators of public water systems and wastewater treatment works to reduce rates charged to low-income households. Owners and operators must also conduct outreach activities to ensure that households are aware of the available rate reduction assistance.

Further, any entity receiving financial assistance under this grant program must ensure that no home energy service, public water system service, or wastewater treatment works is or remains disconnected or interrupted during the COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) public health emergency because of nonpayment.

Actions Timeline

- **Jul 29, 2020:** Introduced in Senate
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