

# HR 5391

WHERA Act

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Environmental Protection

**Introduced:** Dec 11, 2019

**Current Status:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change. (Dec 12, 2019)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/5391>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]

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

## Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. McMorris Rodgers, Cathy [R-WA-5]	R · WA		Dec 11, 2019

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Commerce Committee	House	Referred to	Dec 12, 2019

## Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Environmental Protection

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 S 5065	Related bill	<b>Dec 18, 2020:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text: CR S7713-7806)
116 S 2274	Identical bill	<b>Jul 25, 2019:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

## **Wood Heaters Emissions Reduction Act of 2019 or the WHERA Act**

This bill requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to implement programs and authorize policy to reduce emissions from wood heaters.

Specifically, the bill requires the EPA to establish a grant program to provide funding for programs designed to (1) incentivize homeowners to replace old wood heaters with more efficient, cleaner-burning heaters; (2) achieve significant reductions in emissions from wood heaters; (3) help homeowners transition to safer and more efficient heating sources; and (4) support retailers, installers, and manufacturers that sell and make more efficient certified clean heaters.

The EPA must also establish a program to (1) inform stakeholders of the benefits of replacing wood heaters that do not meet specified emission reductions standards, (2) develop nonfinancial incentives to promote the proper installation and use of certified clean heaters, and (3) consult with Indian tribes to implement programs and actions to reduce wood heater emissions.

Finally, the bill authorizes the EPA to accept wood heater emissions reductions Supplemental Environmental Projects.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Dec 12, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change.
- **Dec 11, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 11, 2019:** Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.