

S 865

Spill Response and Prevention Surety Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Mar 25, 2019

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Mar 25, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/865>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Sullivan, Dan [R-AK]

Party: Republican • **State:** AK • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|-----------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Murkowski, Lisa [R-AK] | R · AK | | Mar 27, 2019 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|-------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Finance Committee | Senate | Referred To | Mar 25, 2019 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Spill Response and Prevention Surety Act

This bill provides support for responding to oil spills.

Specifically, it makes permanent and modifies the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, which provides funds to pay removal costs and claims for damages resulting from oil spills into navigable waters of the United States. Under current law, the fund is financed primarily by an excise tax on domestic crude oil and imported petroleum products. The bill expands the definition of *crude oil* for purposes of such tax to include any bitumen or bituminous mixture as well as any oil derived from a bitumen or bituminous mixture.

The bill revises requirements governing the use of the funds. For example, the bill doubles the limit placed on expenditures from the fund that may be used for (1) any single incident, or (2) natural resource damages.

In addition, the bill allows the fund to be used for carrying out grant programs established by this bill. The Department of Homeland Security must biennially award grants to eligible institutions of higher education for oil spill response research and technology development activities and programs as well as oil spill prevention activities and programs. Grants may also be given to states for oil spill prevention activities and programs.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 25, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 25, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.