

S 886

Indian Water Rights Settlement Extension Act

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Water Resources Development

Introduced: Mar 27, 2019

Current Status: Held at the desk.

Latest Action: Held at the desk. (Jun 15, 2020)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/886>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Udall, Tom [D-NM]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Mar 27, 2019
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Mar 27, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Discharged From	May 23, 2019
Indian Affairs Committee	Senate	Reported By	Dec 20, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Water Resources Development

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 644	Related bill	Dec 18, 2020: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 557.
116 HR 4153	Related bill	Dec 7, 2020: Received in the Senate.
116 HR 895	Related bill	Sep 22, 2020: Received in the Senate.
116 HR 1904	Identical bill	Jul 9, 2020: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 352.
116 S 1207	Related bill	Sep 9, 2019: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 182.
116 HR 3292	Related bill	Jun 26, 2019: Subcommittee Hearings Held.
116 S 1875	Related bill	Jun 18, 2019: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Indian Water Rights Settlement Extension Act

This bill ratifies and modifies various agreements related to tribal water rights and contains other related provisions.

The bill ratifies an agreement relating to the settlement of the *Aamodt* litigation, which resolved claims concerning Pueblo water resources. The bill also reauthorizes through FY2028 activities to construct a regional water system as part of that settlement. Specifically, the bill ratifies an agreement between the United States, New Mexico, the city of Santa Fe, and the Pueblos of Nambe, Pojoaque, San Ildefonso, and Tesuque relating to the litigation. (This agreement is in addition to previously ratified agreements settling the litigation.)

The bill also ratifies and modifies the Navajo Utah Water Rights Settlement Agreement negotiated between the Navajo Nation, the United States, and Utah. That agreement gives the Navajo Nation the right to use water from sources located within Utah and adjacent to or encompassed within the boundaries of the Navajo Reservation, resulting in depletions not to exceed a specified amount annually.

The Department of the Interior shall establish and manage the Navajo Utah Settlement Trust Fund, with amounts available for withdrawal by the Navajo Nation for Navajo water development projects.

The bill specifies waivers and releases that must be executed in order for the Navajo settlement to be binding and effective.

The bill also authorizes the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense to enter arrangements for the sharing of medical facilities and services with urban Indian organizations.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 15, 2020:** Received in the House.
- **Jun 15, 2020:** Held at the desk.
- **Jun 11, 2020:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jun 4, 2020:** Measure laid before Senate by unanimous consent. (consideration: CR S2743-2745)
- **Jun 4, 2020:** The committee substitute withdrawn by Unanimous Consent. (CR S2745)
- **Jun 4, 2020:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote.
- **Jun 4, 2020:** Passed Senate with an amendment by Voice Vote.
- **Dec 19, 2019:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Reported by Senator Hoeven with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 116-189.
- **Dec 19, 2019:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 397.
- **Jul 17, 2019:** Committee on Indian Affairs. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **May 23, 2019:** Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- **May 23, 2019:** Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.
- **Mar 27, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Mar 27, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.