

HR 892

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to limit attorney fees and penalties in citizen suits, and for other purposes.

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Jan 30, 2019

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment. (Feb 7, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/892>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Hunter, Duncan D. [R-CA-50]

Party: Republican • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. McClintock, Tom [R-CA-4]	R · CA		Feb 11, 2019

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 7, 2019

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

This bill revises requirements for citizen enforcement suits brought under the Clean Water Act.

Specifically, the bill limits the amount that may be awarded for the costs of litigation in citizen suits. An award of litigation costs may not exceed (1) an amount that is proportional to the number of successful claims included in the complaint, or (2) the amount of monetary penalties.

The award of litigation costs must be based on the prevailing rates in the local market area where the violation occurred for the kind and quality of the services furnished.

Citizen suits may not be commenced if the Environmental Protection Agency or a state has commenced and is diligently prosecuting a civil or criminal action through the issuance of a compliance order.

The bill provides for certain affirmative defenses for a person who may be liable for the unlawful discharge of a pollutant.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 7, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.
- **Jan 30, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 30, 2019:** Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.