

HR 2415

Orphaned Well Cleanup and Jobs Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Energy

Introduced: Apr 8, 2021

Current Status: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 464.

Latest Action: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 464. (Dec 15, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2415>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Leger Fernandez, Teresa [D-NM-3]

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

Cosponsors (34 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Castor, Kathy [D-FL-14]	D · FL		Apr 8, 2021
Rep. Doyle, Michael F. [D-PA-18]	D · PA		Apr 8, 2021
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Apr 8, 2021
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Apr 8, 2021
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		May 21, 2021
Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		May 21, 2021
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-8]	D · PA		May 21, 2021
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		May 21, 2021
Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]	D · CO		May 21, 2021
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-13]	D · MI		May 21, 2021
Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-7]	D · NY		May 21, 2021
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		May 28, 2021
Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]	D · NY		May 28, 2021
Rep. Garcia, Jesus G. "Chuy" [D-IL-4]	D · IL		May 28, 2021
Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]	D · CA		May 28, 2021
Rep. Levin, Mike [D-CA-49]	D · CA		May 28, 2021
Rep. Napolitano, Grace F. [D-CA-32]	D · CA		May 28, 2021
Rep. Ross, Deborah K. [D-NC-2]	D · NC		May 28, 2021
Rep. Soto, Darren [D-FL-9]	D · FL		May 28, 2021
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		May 28, 2021
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Jun 11, 2021
Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-45]	D · CA		Jun 11, 2021
Rep. Sires, Albio [D-NJ-8]	D · NJ		Jun 11, 2021
Rep. Jones, Mondaire [D-NY-17]	D · NY		Jun 29, 2021
Rep. Yarmuth, John A. [D-KY-3]	D · KY		Jun 29, 2021
Rep. Dean, Madeleine [D-PA-4]	D · PA		Jul 21, 2021
Rep. Newman, Marie [D-IL-3]	D · IL		Jul 21, 2021
Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]	D · VA		Jul 21, 2021
Rep. Carbajal, Salud O. [D-CA-24]	D · CA		Aug 17, 2021
Rep. McNerney, Jerry [D-CA-9]	D · CA		Aug 17, 2021
Rep. Carson, Andre [D-IN-7]	D · IN		Sep 21, 2021
Rep. Stansbury, Melanie Ann [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Nov 1, 2021
Rep. Carter, Troy [D-LA-2]	D · LA		Feb 1, 2022
Rep. Levin, Andy [D-MI-9]	D · MI		Jun 8, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Discharged from	May 26, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Energy

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Dec 15, 2022)

Orphaned Well Cleanup and Jobs Act of 2021

This bill establishes incentives and requirements to permanently plug orphaned (i.e., abandoned) oil and gas wells and clean up pollution leaking from such wells.

Specifically, the bill directs the Department of the Interior to establish grant programs to plug and clean up orphaned wells located on federal, state, tribal, and private land.

Interior must also issue regulations that require each operator of an idled well on federal land to pay an annual, nonrefundable fee for each well. If the operator fails to pay the fee, then Interior may assess a civil penalty. Revenues generated from such fees must be used for activities related to cleaning up orphaned wells.

Additionally, the bill requires the review of the adequacy of bonds or other financial arrangements for oil and gas development on public land leased from the federal government. Such bonds or financial arrangements are currently required to ensure developers have adequate financial resources to remediate and reclaim public land, water, or other resources after wells are abandoned or oil and gas development ceases.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 15, 2022:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. 117-645.
- **Dec 15, 2022:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 464.
- **May 26, 2021:** Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources Discharged.
- **May 26, 2021:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **May 26, 2021:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 22 - 17.
- **Apr 15, 2021:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **Apr 14, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.
- **Apr 8, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 8, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

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