HR 4579

Forest Litigation Reform Act of 2021

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)
Chamber: House
Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources
Introduced: Jul 20, 2021
Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry. (Aug 11, 2021)
Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4579

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Rosendale Sr., Matthew M. [R-MT-At Large]
Party: Republican • **State:** MT • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bentz, Cliff [R-OR-2]	R · OR		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Boebert, Lauren [R-CO-3]	R · CO		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4]	R · OK		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. LaMalfa, Doug [R-CA-1]	R · CA		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4]	R · WA		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Obernolte, Jay [R-CA-8]	R · CA		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Tiffany, Thomas P. [R-WI-7]	R · WI		Jul 20, 2021
Rep. Westerman, Bruce [R-AR-4]	R · AR		Jul 20, 2021

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 11, 2021
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred To	Jul 20, 2021
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 4, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Jul 20, 2021)

Forest Litigation Reform Act of 2021

This bill sets forth provisions regarding legal challenges to federal forest management activities on land suitable for timber production.

The bill revises the standard of review for a court considering a request for injunctive relief applicable to an agency's qualified forest management activity. Specifically, a court must balance the impact to the ecosystem of undertaking the agency action against not undertaking the agency action.

The bill also limits the length of preliminary injunctive relief and stays pending appeal in such cases to 60 days.

Additionally, the bill directs the Department of Agriculture, with respect to National Forest System lands, and the Department of the Interior, with respect to public lands, to each establish a discretionary arbitration pilot program as an alternative dispute resolution process for challenges to qualified forest management activities.

The bill prohibits amounts from being obligated or expended from the Claims and Judgment Fund and awards to pay any fees or other expenses to any plaintiff related to an action challenging a qualified forest management activity.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 11, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
- **Aug 4, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands.
- **Jul 20, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Jul 20, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

LegiList

CONGRESS, MADE CLEAR.

Search Every Federal Bill, Law, and Vote

LegiList is the fastest way to research Congress. Track any bill from introduction to enactment, see how every legislator voted, follow committee activity, and read the full text of every bill — all in one place, always up to date.

legilist.com

Free Course: Learn How Congress Actually Works

LegiList Learn is a free, self-paced course that walks through the entire legislative process — from drafting a bill to a presidential signature. Seven modules, plain language, no politics. Earn a certificate when you finish.

legilist.com/learn

Developer API: Build Apps on Legislative Data

The LegiList API gives developers direct access to bills, votes, legislators, committees, and more. Start free with 1,000 requests per day — no credit card required. Upgrade to Pro when you need to scale.

legilist.com/api

Public data belongs to the public. — legilist.com