

HR 7793

Rio Grande Water Security Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Water Resources Development

Introduced: May 17, 2022

Current Status: Subcommittee Hearings Held.

Latest Action: Subcommittee Hearings Held. (Jun 16, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/7793>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Stansbury, Melanie Ann [D-NM-1]

Party: Democratic • State: NM • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (5 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Herrell, Yvette [R-NM-2]	R · NM		May 17, 2022
Rep. Leger Fernandez, Teresa [D-NM-3]	D · NM		May 17, 2022
Rep. Neguse, Joe [D-CO-2]	D · CO		May 17, 2022
Rep. Perlmutter, Ed [D-CO-7]	D · CO		May 17, 2022
Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]	D · CO		Jun 22, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Jun 16, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Water Resources Development

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 5118	Related bill	Aug 2, 2022: Received in the Senate.
117 S 4236	Related bill	May 25, 2022: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water and Power. Hearings held.

Rio Grande Water Security Act

This bill requires the Department of the Interior to develop and implement an integrated water resources management plan (i.e., the Basin Plan) for the Rio Grande Basin and reauthorizes an irrigation infrastructure grant program for Rio Grande Pueblos tribes.

Specifically, Interior must convene a working group of designated federal agencies to collaborate with the Basin States (Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas), Indian tribes, local governments, irrigation districts, and other partners to develop and implement a plan for improving the basin's water security and quality, river and watershed health, and resilience to drought. The plan must include (1) project recommendations for updating reservoir operations, increasing water conservation, and improving infrastructure; (2) a list of potential changes that may be needed to existing federal authorities to implement the plan; and (3) a 30-year implementation time line.

After the plan is submitted to Congress, relevant agencies may implement recommended projects. Agencies may also waive cost-sharing requirements for projects that demonstrate significant public benefits.

The bill also reauthorizes an irrigation infrastructure grant program that permits the Bureau of Reclamation to provide grants and enter into agreements with the Rio Grande Pueblos tribes for repairing and replacing Pueblo irrigation infrastructure to (1) increase water use efficiency and agricultural productivity, (2) conserve water, and (3) enhance water management.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 16, 2022:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **May 20, 2022:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife.
- **May 17, 2022:** Introduced in House
- **May 17, 2022:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.