

HR 9535

Federal Land Freedom Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Energy

Introduced: Dec 14, 2022

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources. (Dec 14, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/9535>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Biggs, Andy [R-AZ-5]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bice, Stephanie I. [R-OK-5]	R · OK		Dec 14, 2022
Rep. Gosar, Paul A. [R-AZ-4]	R · AZ		Dec 14, 2022
Rep. Newhouse, Dan [R-WA-4]	R · WA		Dec 14, 2022
Rep. Stewart, Chris [R-UT-2]	R · UT		Dec 14, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred To	Dec 14, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Energy

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 8966	Related bill	Oct 28, 2022: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry.
117 S 4815	Related bill	Sep 12, 2022: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.
117 S 2394	Related bill	Jul 20, 2021: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Federal Land Freedom Act

This bill sets forth a process that allows a state (including the District of Columbia) to seek to transfer the responsibility of energy development on federal land within its boundaries from the federal government to the state. Federal land does not include land that, as of May 31, 2013, is (1) held for the benefit of an Indian tribe, (2) in the National Park System, (3) in the National Wildlife Refuge System, or (4) in a congressionally designated wilderness area.

To qualify for such a transfer of responsibility, a state must have a program that regulates the exploration and development of oil, natural gas, and other forms of energy on its land. The federal responsibility transfers to the state once the state submits to the Department of the Interior, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Energy a declaration that it has such a program and that it seeks to transfer the responsibility.

Any action taken by a state to lease, permit, or regulate the exploration and development of energy on federal land in lieu of the federal government is not subject to the Administrative Procedure Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, or the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 14, 2022:** Introduced in House
- **Dec 14, 2022:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.