

HR 5487

Help Our Kelp Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Sep 14, 2023

Current Status: Subcommittee Hearings Held

Latest Action: Subcommittee Hearings Held (Mar 21, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/5487>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Huffman, Jared [D-CA-2]

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

Cosponsors (20 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		Sep 14, 2023
Rep. DelBene, Suzan K. [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Sep 14, 2023
Rep. Jayapal, Pramila [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Sep 14, 2023
Rep. Kilmer, Derek [D-WA-6]	D · WA		Sep 14, 2023
Rep. Larsen, Rick [D-WA-2]	D · WA		Sep 14, 2023
Rep. Mullin, Kevin [D-CA-15]	D · CA		Sep 14, 2023
Rep. Peters, Scott H. [D-CA-50]	D · CA		Sep 14, 2023
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-36]	D · CA		Oct 18, 2023
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		Oct 18, 2023
Rep. Davis, Danny K. [D-IL-7]	D · IL		Nov 28, 2023
Rep. Panetta, Jimmy [D-CA-19]	D · CA		Nov 28, 2023
Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Nov 28, 2023
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Nov 28, 2023
Rep. Schrier, Kim [D-WA-8]	D · WA		Nov 28, 2023
Rep. Strickland, Marilyn [D-WA-10]	D · WA		Nov 28, 2023
Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large]	D · DC		Feb 6, 2024
Rep. Case, Ed [D-HI-1]	D · HI		Feb 6, 2024
Rep. Lofgren, Zoe [D-CA-18]	D · CA		Feb 6, 2024
Rep. Schiff, Adam B. [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Feb 6, 2024
Rep. Tlaib, Rashida [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Feb 6, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Mar 21, 2024

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 2807	Related bill	Sep 14, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Summary (as of Sep 14, 2023)

Help Our Kelp Act

This bill directs the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to establish a grant program to fund projects to conserve, restore, or manage kelp forest ecosystems. (A kelp forest is a dense grouping of large brown algae which also serves as a habitat for marine life.)

Eligible projects include those that address the greatest relative regional declines in kelp forest ecosystems, focus on kelp forest seeding and connectivity, or integrate Indigenous knowledge and cultural practices into the restoration and monitoring of kelp forest ecosystems.

The bill specifies that members of the fishing industry, institutions of higher education, nonprofit organizations, Indian tribes, state agencies, and local governments are eligible to receive grants.

The bill prohibits a grant from exceeding 85% of the total project cost. However, NOAA may waive this restriction in limited circumstances.

Actions Timeline

- **Mar 21, 2024:** Subcommittee Hearings Held
- **Mar 18, 2024:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries.
- **Sep 14, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Sep 14, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.