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Water Rights Protection Act of 2023

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Jan 25, 2023

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (Jan 25, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/64>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]

Party: Republican • **State:** WY • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Jan 25, 2023
Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]	R · ID		Jan 25, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 25, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 7544	Related bill	Aug 30, 2024: Referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation, Research, and Biotechnology.

Water Rights Protection Act of 2023

This bill addresses issues of water rights with respect to lands under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, including water rights of federally recognized Indian tribes.

Specifically, such departments must ensure that federal action imposes no greater restriction or regulatory requirement than under applicable state water law.

Further, such departments shall not take actions that adversely affect state authority in permitting water usage or in adjudicating water rights.

The bill also prohibits such departments from requiring water users to transfer water rights to the United States or acquire water rights in the name of the United States as a condition of issuing or renewing a land use or occupancy agreement.

Actions Timeline

- **Jan 25, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
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