

## HR 6474

To amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to expedite geothermal exploration and development in previously studied or developed areas.

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Energy

**Introduced:** Nov 21, 2023

**Current Status:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**Latest Action:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (Sep 25, 2024)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/6474>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Steel, Michelle [R-CA-45]

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

### Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Lee, Susie [D-NV-3]	D · NV		Dec 12, 2023

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Referred To	Sep 25, 2024
Natural Resources Committee	House	Discharged from	Jan 17, 2024

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Energy

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 S 4865	Related bill	Jul 30, 2024: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

### Summary (as of Sep 24, 2024)

This bill expedites the environmental review of certain geothermal energy activities under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Specifically, the bill modifies the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to allow a categorical exclusion under NEPA for drilling a geothermal well (1) in an area where drilling has occurred previously within the five years prior to the date when drilling begins; or (2) within a developed field for which an approved land use plan or environmental document prepared under NEPA determined drilling to be a reasonably foreseeable activity, so long as the plan or document was approved within the five years prior to the date when drilling begins.

## Actions Timeline

---

- **Sep 25, 2024:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
- **Sep 24, 2024:** Mr. Westerman moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Sep 24, 2024:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H5733-5734)
- **Sep 24, 2024:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 6474.
- **Sep 24, 2024:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H5733)
- **Sep 24, 2024:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR H5733)
- **Sep 24, 2024:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 18, 2024:** Reported by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. 118-689.
- **Sep 18, 2024:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 583.
- **Jan 17, 2024:** Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources Discharged
- **Jan 17, 2024:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held
- **Jan 17, 2024:** Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
- **Dec 12, 2023:** Subcommittee Hearings Held
- **Dec 11, 2023:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.
- **Nov 21, 2023:** Introduced in House
- **Nov 21, 2023:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.