

HR 7409

HEATS Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Energy

Introduced: Feb 20, 2024

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. (Nov 18, 2024)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/7409>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Kim, Young [R-CA-40]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Duarte, John S. [R-CA-13]	R · CA		Feb 20, 2024
Rep. Peltola, Mary Sattler [D-AK-At Large]	D · AK		May 21, 2024

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Referred To	Nov 18, 2024
Natural Resources Committee	House	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Mar 6, 2024

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Energy

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 7476	Related bill	Dec 17, 2024: Referred to the Subcommittee on Trade.
118 HRES 1568	Related bill	Nov 13, 2024: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
118 HR 2811	Related bill	May 4, 2023: Committee on the Budget. Hearings held. Hearings printed: S.Hrg. 118-76.
118 HR 1	Related bill	Mar 30, 2023: The Clerk was authorized to correct section numbers, punctuation, and cross references, and to make other necessary technical and conforming corrections in the engrossment of H.R. 1.
118 HR 1335	Related bill	Mar 23, 2023: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 18.
118 S 947	Related bill	Mar 22, 2023: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Harnessing Energy At Thermal Sources Act or the HEATS Act

This bill exempts certain geothermal activities on state and private lands (except Indian lands) from drilling permit requirements as well as environmental and historic preservation review requirements.

First, the bill prohibits the Department of the Interior from requiring an operator to obtain a drilling permit under the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 for any geothermal exploration and production activity conducted on a nonfederal surface estate (i.e., the part of the estate that is above ground) if (1) the United States holds an ownership interest of less than 50% of the subsurface geothermal estate to be accessed by the proposed action, and (2) the operator submits to Interior a state permit to conduct the geothermal exploration and production activity on the nonfederal surface estate.

Next, the bill states that such geothermal exploration and production activity is not considered a major federal action under National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Thus, such activity does not trigger NEPA's environmental review requirements.

In addition, the bill exempts such activity from the consultation requirements under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. It also exempts the activity from review under the National Historic Preservation Act unless the state in which the activity occurs does not have a state law that addresses the preservation of historic properties.

Actions Timeline

- **Nov 18, 2024:** Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
- **Nov 14, 2024:** Considered under the provisions of rule H. Res. 1568. (consideration: CR H5994-5998)
- **Nov 14, 2024:** Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 8932, H.R. 7409 and H.R. 8446. The resolution provides for consideration of H.R. 8932, H.R. 7409, and H.R. 8446 under a closed rule, and provides for one hour of debate and one motion to recommit on each bill.
- **Nov 14, 2024:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with one hour of debate on H.R. 7409.
- **Nov 14, 2024:** The previous question was ordered pursuant to the rule.
- **Nov 14, 2024:** Ms. Stansbury moved to recommit to the Committee on Natural Resources. (CR H5998)
- **Nov 14, 2024:** The previous question on the motion to recommit was ordered pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XIX.
- **Nov 14, 2024:** POSTPONED PROCEEDINGS - At the conclusion of debate on H.R. 7409, the Chair put the question on the motion to recommit and by voice vote, announced that the noes had prevailed. Ms. Stansbury demanded the yeas and nays and the Chair postponed further proceedings until a time to be announced.
- **Nov 14, 2024:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H6000-6001)
- **Nov 14, 2024:** On motion to recommit Failed by the Yeas and Nays: 198 - 206 (Roll no. 463).
- **Nov 14, 2024:** Passed/agreed to in House: On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 225 - 181 (Roll no. 464). (text: CR H5994)
- **Nov 14, 2024:** On passage Passed by the Yeas and Nays: 225 - 181 (Roll no. 464). (text: CR H5994)
- **Nov 14, 2024:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Nov 12, 2024:** Rules Committee Resolution H. Res. 1568 Reported to House. Rule provides for consideration of H.R. 8932, H.R. 7409 and H.R. 8446. The resolution provides for consideration of H.R. 8932, H.R. 7409, and H.R. 8446 under a closed rule, and provides for one hour of debate and one motion to recommit on each bill.
- **Nov 1, 2024:** Reported by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. 118-722.
- **Nov 1, 2024:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 609.
- **Apr 16, 2024:** Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources Discharged
- **Apr 16, 2024:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held
- **Apr 16, 2024:** Ordered to be Reported by the Yeas and Nays: 22 - 16.
- **Mar 6, 2024:** Subcommittee Hearings Held
- **Mar 4, 2024:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.
- **Feb 20, 2024:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 20, 2024:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.