

## S 228

### Acequia Communities Empowered by Qualifying Upgrades for Infrastructure Act

**Congress:** 119 (2025–2027, Current)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Water Resources Development

**Introduced:** Jan 23, 2025

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry. (Jan 23, 2025)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/228>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** NM • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Jan 23, 2025

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 23, 2025

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Water Resources Development

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

### Summary (as of Jan 23, 2025)

#### Acequia Communities Empowered by Qualifying Upgrades for Infrastructure Act

This bill specifies that agricultural producers who rely on acequia systems are eligible to receive assistance under the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program for all losses suffered as a result of drought, flood, or other natural disasters. Acequias, or community ditches, are community-operated and -organized water irrigation systems.

The bill also provides that a special use permit shall not be required on Department of Agriculture (USDA) or Department of the Interior land for the (1) presence or use of an acequia or the use of the acequia's water, or (2) routine maintenance and minor improvements conducted by a community user or governing body of an acequia.

Further, USDA must submit a report to Congress on agricultural producers who rely on acequia systems.

