

HR 302

Water Rights Protection Act

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Jan 9, 2025

Current Status: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 334.

Latest Action: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 334. (Nov 25, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/302>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Maloy, Celeste [R-UT-2]

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

Cosponsors (6 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Biggs, Andy [R-AZ-5]	R · AZ		Jan 9, 2025
Rep. Estes, Ron [R-KS-4]	R · KS		Jan 9, 2025
Rep. Fulcher, Russ [R-ID-1]	R · ID		Jan 9, 2025
Rep. Moore, Blake D. [R-UT-1]	R · UT		Jan 9, 2025
Rep. Owens, Burgess [R-UT-4]	R · UT		Jan 14, 2025
Rep. Kennedy, Mike [R-UT-3]	R · UT		Feb 11, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 14, 2025
Natural Resources Committee	House	Markup By	Feb 12, 2025
Natural Resources Committee	House	Reported By	Nov 25, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Water Rights Protection Act of 2025

This bill limits the transfer of water rights from water users to the Department of the Interior or the Department of Agriculture (USDA).

First, the bill prohibits Interior and USDA from conditioning the issuance or renewal of land use or occupancy agreements (e.g., permits and leases) on the transfer of any water right to the United States. Next, it prohibits Interior and USDA from requiring water users, including Indian tribes, to acquire water rights in the name of the United States as a condition of the issuance or renewal of a land use or occupancy agreement. Finally, it prohibits Interior and USDA from conditioning or withholding the issuance or renewal of land use or occupancy agreements on (1) limiting the date, time, quantity, location of diversion or pumping, or place of use of a state water right beyond any applicable limitations under state water law; or (2) modifying the terms and conditions of groundwater withdrawal, guidance and reporting procedures, or conservation and source protection measures established by a state.

Interior and USDA must also ensure that federal action imposes no greater restriction or regulatory requirement than under applicable state water law.

Further, Interior and USDA must not take actions that adversely affect state authority in permitting water usage or in adjudicating water rights.

period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

- **Jan 9, 2025:** Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
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