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Voluntary Public Access Improvement Act of 2025

Congress: 119 (2025–2027, Current)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Agriculture and Food

Introduced: Feb 25, 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. (Feb 25, 2025)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/senate-bill/704>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT]

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

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Feb 25, 2025
Sen. Marshall, Roger [R-KS]	R · KS		Feb 25, 2025
Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]	D · NM		Mar 11, 2025
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		Dec 17, 2025

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee	Senate	Referred To	Feb 25, 2025

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Agriculture and Food

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
119 HR 1565	Identical bill	Mar 28, 2025: Referred to the Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities, Risk Management, and Credit.

Voluntary Public Access Improvement Act of 2025

This bill reauthorizes through FY2029 and increases funding for the Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Incentive Program (VPA-HIP). This Natural Resources Conservation Service program provides state and tribal governments competitive grants to encourage owners and operators of privately-held land (i.e., farm, ranch, and forest land) to allow public access for hunting, fishing, and other wildlife-dependent recreation.

The bill also reauthorizes through FY2029 VPA-HIP funding to encourage public access to land covered by wetland reserve easements through agreements with states and tribal governments.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 25, 2025:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 25, 2025:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

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