



Congressional Round-Up

July 13-18, 2026

Every week, the Environmental and Energy Study Institute publishes a legislative tracker of environment- and energy-related bills introduced, advanced, and passed by Congress, as well as relevant committee hearings. This document was put together with information from congress.gov, press releases from congressional offices, and news stories. (Note that we may have inadvertently missed a bill or hearing.)

Highlights:

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee advanced the *Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2026* ([S.4949](#)). Sens. Shelley Moore Capito (R-W.Va.), Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.), Kevin Cramer (R-N.D.), Angela Alsobrooks (D-Md.), and Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) reintroduced the bill, which [reauthorizes](#) flood control, ecosystem restoration, and other water resources projects under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers every two years.

Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-Ore.), along with ten bipartisan cosponsors, introduced the *Saving the Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI) Act of 2026* ([H.R.9647](#)) to [block](#) the dismantling of deep-sea monitoring instruments. The bill is a response to the National Science Foundation's plan to remove the OOI's sensors, which provide real-time and publicly accessible data for fishery management and coastal communities on marine climate and weather events. Sens. Jeff Merkley (D-Ore.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska.) introduced the Senate version ([S.4822](#)), which passed the chamber in June.

The House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology agreed to the *Next-Generation Geothermal Research and Development Act* ([H.R.8790](#)). Reps. Pat Harrigan (R-N.C.) and Andrea Salinas (D-Ore.) introduced the bill, which would direct the Department of Energy to support research, development, and commercial application efforts of new geothermal energy systems.

July 18, 2026

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.J.Res.202](#)

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Providing congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Motor Vehicle Pollution Control Standards; Notice of Decision Granting a Waiver of Clean Air Act Preemption for California's 2009 and Subsequent Model Year Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards for New Motor Vehicles".

Sponsor: [Hageman, Harriet M. \[Rep.-R-WY-At Large\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([0](#))

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 07/18/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Senate:

The Senate did not meet today.

July 17, 2026

The House and Senate did not meet today.

July 16, 2026

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.9740](#)

Critical Materials Processing Technology Testbed Act

Sponsor: [Foster, Bill \[Rep.-D-IL-11\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([0](#))

Committees: House - Science, Space, and Technology

Latest Action: House - 07/16/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

[H.R.9746](#)

Biomass Facility Construction Act

Sponsor: [Kiley, Kevin \[Rep.-I-CA-3\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([0](#))

Committees: House - Ways and Means

Latest Action: House - 07/16/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

[H.R.9760](#)



To amend the National Security Act of 1947 to require the Federal Government to produce a national resilience strategy, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Peters, Scott H. \[Rep.-D-CA-50\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([1](#))

Committees: House - Armed Services; Foreign Affairs; Intelligence (Permanent Select)

Latest Action: House - 07/16/2026 Referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

Bills Reported:

[H.R.8790](#)

Next-Generation Geothermal Research and Development Act

Sponsor: [Harrigan, Pat \[Rep.-R-NC-10\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([1](#))

Committees: House - Science, Space, and Technology; Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 07/16/2026 Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 655.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.5008](#)

Grid Connection and Congestion Management Act

Sponsor: [Heinrich, Martin \[Sen.-D-NM\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([0](#))

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 07/16/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[S.5016](#)

A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to modify allotments under that Act, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Scott, Rick \[Sen.-R-FL\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([7](#))

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 07/16/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

[S.5018](#)

A bill to approve certain requests for a major disaster declaration, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Reed, Jack \[Sen.-D-RI\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([1](#))

Committees: Senate - Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Latest Action: 07/16/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR [S4139-4140](#))

[S.5020](#)

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A bill to require a study on manufactured homes in areas at high risk of natural hazards and weather extremes.

Sponsor: [Padilla, Alex \[Sen.-D-CA\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([1](#))

Committees: Senate - Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Latest Action: 07/16/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR [S4140](#))

S.5028

A bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a Federal standard relating to the recovery of the full, incremental costs of upgrades that serve large-load customers, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Husted, Jon \[Sen.-R-OH\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([0](#))

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 07/16/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Bills Reported:

S.3383

Unlocking Native Lands and Opportunities for Commerce and Key Economic Developments Act of 2025

Sponsor: [Schatz, Brian \[Sen.-D-HI\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([2](#))

Committees: Senate - Indian Affairs

Latest Action: Senate - 07/16/2026 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 459.

July 15, 2026

House:

Bills Introduced:

H.R.9700

To establish the Ratepayer Justice Fund and a Federal process to reimburse ratepayers and communities harmed by utility and utility executive misconduct, including corruption, and to hold accountable those responsible for such misconduct, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Kaptur, Marcy \[Rep.-D-OH-9\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([0](#))

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce; Ways and Means; Transportation and Infrastructure; Small Business; Financial Services; Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 07/15/2026 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Transportation and Infrastructure, Small Business, Financial Services, and Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

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[H.R.9704](#)

To direct the Secretary of Agriculture to make economic assistance payments to qualifying producers for certain revenue losses with respect to covered commodities, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Figures, Shomari \[Rep.-D-AL-2\]](#) Cosponsors: ([1](#))

Committees: House - Agriculture

Latest Action: House - 07/15/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

[H.R.9705](#)

To require the Secretary of the Army to issue guidance relating to the review of applications for alteration or temporary or permanent occupation or use of certain hydropower projects, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Goodlander, Maggie \[Rep.-D-NH-2\]](#) Cosponsors: ([1](#))

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 07/15/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Committee Hearings:

REFORMING FEMA: ENSURING THE NATION'S DISASTER READINESS WORKS FOR AMERICANS

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a [hearing](#) entitled "Reforming FEMA: Ensuring the Nation's Disaster Readiness Works for Americans". Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

Other Committee Meetings:

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a [markup](#) on H.R. 726, the "Crow Tribe Water Rights Settlement Amendments Act of 2025"; H.R. 2317, the "Northern Nevada Economic Development and Conservation Act of 2025";...H.R. 2827, to provide for the equitable settlement of certain Indian land disputes regarding land in Illinois, and for other purposes; H.R. 6251, to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to allow importation of polar bear trophies taken in sport hunts in Canada before the date the polar bear was determined to be a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973; H.R. 6893, the "Chesapeake Bay Watershed Advancement for Training, Education, Restoration, and Science (WATERS) Act"; H.R. 7889, the "AWRC Act of 2025";...and H.R. 9436, to amend the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2023 to extend the time period for which certain regulations concerning the North Atlantic right whale are effective. H.R. 7889 [and] H.R. 2827...were ordered reported, without amendment. H.R. 6893, H.R. 2317, H.R. 9436, H.R. 726, and H.R. 6251 were ordered reported, as amended.

Senate:

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Bills Introduced:

[S.4992](#)

A bill to require the Secretary of the Army to issue guidance relating to the review of applications for alteration or temporary or permanent occupation or use of certain hydropower projects, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Daines, Steve \[Sen.-R-MT\]](#) **Cosponsors:** (1)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 07/15/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

[S.4995](#)

A bill to provide for the protection of agricultural workers, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Welch, Peter \[Sen.-D-VT\]](#) **Cosponsors:** (4)

Committees: Senate - Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Latest Action: Senate - 07/15/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

[S.4996](#)

A bill to regulate market concentration and competition in the food and agriculture industry, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Welch, Peter \[Sen.-D-VT\]](#) **Cosponsors:** (3)

Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Latest Action: Senate - 07/15/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Bills Reported:

[S.4949](#)

Water Resources Development Act of 2026

Sponsor: [Capito, Shelley Moore \[Sen.-R-WV\]](#) **Cosponsors:** (4)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 07/15/2026 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 457.

Committee Hearings:

LEGISLATION

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining concluded a [hearing](#) to examine S. 1791, to designate certain special management areas, wildlife conservation areas, protection areas, recreation areas, wilderness areas, and a scientific research and education area in the State of Colorado, S. 4200, to promote conservation, improve public land, and provide for sensible development in Douglas County, Nevada, S. 4239, [and other bills] after receiving testimony from Senator Bennet; Leah Baker, Acting Assistant Director, Resources and

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Planning, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; John Crockett, Deputy Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture; Jenifer Davidson, Douglas County Manager, Minden, Nevada; and Katie Sweeney, National Mining Association, Washington, D.C.

July 14, 2026

House:

Bills Introduced:

H.R.9663

State Standing Committee Act

Sponsor: [Baird, James R. \[Rep.-R-IN-4\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([0](#))

Committees: House - Science, Space, and Technology

Latest Action: House - 07/14/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

H.R.9673

To require the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to establish an assessment program for commercial-scale offshore aquaculture through demonstration projects, to establish Aquaculture Centers of Excellence, to support aquaculture workforce development and working waterfronts, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Ezell, Mike \[Rep.-R-MS-4\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([3](#))

Committees: House - Natural Resources; Education and Workforce

Latest Action: House - 07/14/2026 Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

H.R.9683

To direct the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report to Congress on case management personnel turnover of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Moore, Tim \[Rep.-R-NC-14\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([1](#))

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure

Latest Action: House - 07/14/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

H.R.9686

To increase access to artificial intelligence through programs of the Department of Agriculture, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Nunn, Zachary \[Rep.-R-IA-3\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([1](#))

Committees: House - Agriculture

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Latest Action: House - 07/14/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Agriculture.

H.R.9690

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reauthorize emergency technical assistance, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize emergency technical assistance and grants, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Trahan, Lori \[Rep.-D-MA-3\]](#) **Cosponsors:** (0)

Committees: House - Transportation and Infrastructure; Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 07/14/2026 Referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker.

Other Committee Meetings:

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy held a [markup](#) on H.R. 3978, the "Nuclear REFUEL Act"; H.R. 5549, the "Efficient Nuclear Licensing Hearings Act"; H.R. 9084, the "Department of Energy Nuclear Transparency Act"; H.R. 9612, the "American Enrichment Deployment Act"; H.R. 9613, the "Nuclear Advisory Committee Reform Act"; and H.R. 9614, the "NRC Staff Pay Alignment Act". H.R. 9612, H.R. 5549, H.R. 9613, and H.R. 9614 were forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment. H.R. 3978 and H.R. 9084 were forwarded to the full Committee, as amended.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment held a [markup](#) on H.R. 2140, the "Diesel Emissions Reduction Act of 2025"; H.R. 3194, the "Lifting Overburdensome Commerce Obstructions and Motives Act"; H.R. 9317, the "Buses Utilizing Safety and Environmental Standards Act"; H.R. 9615, the "Battery Recycling for America's Competitive Economy Act"; H.R. 9616, the "Environmental Monitoring and Remediation Technology Assessment Initiative Act of 2026"; H.R. 9617, the "Coordinating and Harnessing America's Recovery of Minerals Act"; and H.R. 9618, the "Diesel Engine Flexibility Act". H.R. 2140, H.R. 3194, H.R. 9317, H.R. 9616, and H.R. 9617 were forwarded to the full Committee, without amendment. H.R. 9615 and H.R. 9618 were forwarded to the full Committee, as amended.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a [markup](#) on updated Subcommittee Rosters due to changes on the Majority side; General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions; and H.R. 9497, the "Water Resources Development Act of 2026". Updated Subcommittee Rosters were approved. Two General Services Administration Capital Investment and Leasing Program Resolutions were agreed to. H.R. 9497 was ordered reported, as amended.

Senate:



Bills Introduced:

[S.4960](#)

A bill to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to increase the frequency of lease sales, to require replacement sales, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Risch, James E. \[Sen.-R-ID\]](#) **Cosponsors:** (0)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 07/14/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[S.4962](#)

A bill to establish an Office of Water Supply, Water Conservation, and Drought Resiliency within the Directorate of Civil Works in the Corps of Engineers, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Warnock, Raphael G. \[Sen.-D-GA\]](#) **Cosponsors:** (1)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 07/14/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

[S.4968](#)

A bill to provide for the transmission of emergency alerts by satellite, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Cornyn, John \[Sen.-R-TX\]](#) **Cosponsors:** (1)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 07/14/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

[S.4970](#)

A bill to require the Secretary of the Army to conduct certain wildfire risk assessments, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Kelly, Mark \[Sen.-D-AZ\]](#) **Cosponsors:** (1)

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 07/14/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

[S.4971](#)

A bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 to modify the Federal share with respect to certain Western rural water infrastructure projects, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Kelly, Mark \[Sen.-D-AZ\]](#) **Cosponsors:** (1)

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 07/14/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[S.4975](#)



A bill to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to waive the requirement for a Federal drilling permit for certain activities, to exempt certain activities from the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Hoeven, John \[Sen.-R-ND\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([1](#))

Committees: Senate - Energy and Natural Resources

Latest Action: Senate - 07/14/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

[S.4980](#)

A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reauthorize emergency technical assistance, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize emergency technical assistance and grants, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Markey, Edward J. \[Sen.-D-MA\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([1](#))

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 07/14/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

July 13, 2026

House:

Bills Introduced:

[H.R.9646](#)

Quantum-Enhanced Critical Minerals Mapping Act of 2026

Sponsor: [Hurd, Jeff \[Rep.-R-CO-3\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([1](#))

Committees: House - Natural Resources

Latest Action: House - 07/13/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

[H.R.9647](#)

To prohibit the National Science Foundation from obligating or expending Federal funds to descope or decommission the Ocean Observatories Initiative instruments, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Bonamici, Suzanne \[Rep.-D-OR-1\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([10](#))

Committees: House - Science, Space, and Technology

Latest Action: House - 07/13/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

[H.R.9655](#)

FAIR Data Act

Sponsor: [Riley, Josh \[Rep.-D-NY-19\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([1](#))

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 07/13/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

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[H.R.9658](#)

To amend the Nuclear Energy Innovation and Modernization Act to make certain improvements relating to mandatory Nuclear Regulatory Commission hearings, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Spartz, Victoria \[Rep.-R-IN-5\]](#) Cosponsors: ([1](#))

Committees: House - Energy and Commerce

Latest Action: House - 07/13/2026 Referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Passed House:

[H.R.3106](#)

Weatherizing Infrastructure in the North and Terrorism Emergency Readiness Act of 2025

Sponsor: [Kennedy, Timothy M. \[Rep.-D-NY-26\]](#) Cosponsors: ([1](#))

Committees: House - Homeland Security

Latest Action: House - 07/13/2026 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

Senate:

Bills Introduced:

[S.4949](#)

Water Resources Development Act of 2026

Sponsor: [Capito, Shelley Moore \[Sen.-R-WV\]](#) Cosponsors: ([4](#))

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 07/13/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

[S.4950](#)

A bill to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to codify the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences, to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to establish an initiative to support the development of emergency communication and tracking technologies, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Duckworth, Tammy \[Sen.-D-IL\]](#) Cosponsors: ([0](#))

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Latest Action: Senate - 07/13/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

[S.4951](#)

A bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to submit to Congress a report on barriers to participation in Department of Agriculture programs faced by certified



organic farms and farms that may be interested in transitioning to organic production, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Schiff, Adam B. \[Sen.-D-CA\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([1](#))

Committees: Senate - Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Latest Action: Senate - 07/13/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

S.4956

A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify the scope of an exemption from permits for the discharge of dredged or fill material, and for other purposes.

Sponsor: [Lummis, Cynthia M. \[Sen.-R-WY\]](#) **Cosponsors:** ([3](#))

Committees: Senate - Environment and Public Works

Latest Action: Senate - 07/13/2026 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

