

May 2023

- Make your voice heard: NOAA right whale vessel speed restrictions ...
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Welcome to the May Issue

NOAA's Proposed Vessel Speed Regulation for Recreational Boats Poses Safety and Privacy Concerns, Will Harm Coastal Economies

The recreational boating and fishing industry remains concerned over the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) proposed changes to the North Atlantic Right Whale Vessel Strike Reduction Rule.

Changes include:

- A mandatory 10 knot (11 mph) speed restriction for all boats 65 feet and greater be lowered to include all boats 35 feet and greater in length.
- An expansion of the existing Seasonal Speed Zones (SSZ) to span the vast majority of the Atlantic coast – from Massachusetts to central Florida.
- A 10 knot speed restriction up to 90 miles out from the shoreline, in some instances, for up to 7 months out of the year.

We believe there is a more balanced approach that should be taken to protect the North Atlantic right whale, which does not severely restrict access to the Atlantic Ocean. Instead of this sweeping rule, NOAA must work with the recreational marine industry and U.S. Coast Guard to establish solutions to track whale migration patterns and enforce existing restrictions. Make your voice heard using Boating United.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD HERE

AMI is a proud supporter and partner of Boating United. Boating United is the only federal grassroots campaign platform dedicated to the recreational boating industry. Grassroots efforts are an essential strategy to influence Congress and educate Congress Members on the issues that impact your business.

Boating United is an easy tool to send letters directly to your members of Congress and is the quickest way for our industry to be heard. We need your voice now.

AMI and ORR Hails America's Outdoor Recreation Act

The Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee recently passed the America's Outdoor Recreation Act, the first such legislation specifically aimed at the \$862 billion outdoor recreation industry.

"AORA, the first-of-its-kind recreation packaged dedicated directly to the outdoor recreation industry, will expand access and improve infrastructure on Federal Lands and Waters. This piece of legislation is essential to get more Americans outdoors and on American lakes and rivers," said Eric Kretsch, AMI's Legislative Coordinator, "AMI is looking forward to AORA's quick passage through Congress."

"We are so thrilled AORA continues to move forward in Congress, showcasing how the outdoor recreation economy transcends politics and benefits all Americans who enjoy the outdoors," Jessica Wahl Turner, president of the Outdoor Recreation Roundtable, said in a statement. "We ...look forward to its continued progress through Congress this year."

According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, outdoor recreation contributes nearly 2% of national GDP and generates 4.5 million jobs.

"America's Outdoor Recreation Act will bolster outdoor recreation access and opportunities for millions

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AMI Advocacy

of Americans who continue to discover the benefits of the great outdoors and time spent on our nation's lands and waters," NMMA president and CEO Frank Hugelmeyer said.

Added Glen Hughes, president of the American Sportfishing Association: "The America's Outdoor Recreation Act is a comprehensive set of provisions to ensure our public lands are well-managed and conserved to benefit the outdoor recreation economy and all those who love the outdoors."

AMI Attends American Boating Congress; Participates in Congressional Hill Meetings

AMI's Legislative and Outreach Coordinator, Eric Kretsch, lead the Rhode Island delegation on Capitol Hill visiting the offices of Senator Jack Reed, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, and Representative David Cicilini. AMI discussed the North Atlantic Right Whale Vessel Strick Reduction Rule, changes to the Clean Vessel Act, the LAKES Act, and the PREPARE Act with Rhode Island's representatives.

AMI has co-hosted the American Boating Congress since 2016 along with other marine trades associations.



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A full report out from the 2023 American Boating Congress will be available in the May 2023 AMI Advocate available in a few weeks. AMI will update this page with a link to that edition. If you have any questions about ABC or AMI's Advocacy work please reach out to Eric Kretsch at ekretsch@marinaassociation.org.

[Learn more about the American Boating Congress here.](#) [To learn more about AMI's Advocacy work look here.](#)

AMI to Co-Host and Attend the American Boating Congress Next Week

The Association of Marina Industries is a co-host of the 2023 American Boating Congress the only national advocacy event for the Boating Industry, hosted by the National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA). AMI staff will be in attendance and lead a team on Capitol Hill to discuss the most pressing issues facing our industry with Congressional staff and leaders.



Highlights of the event include a BoatPAC reception, seminars on the most important legislative topics, and Congressional Hill Meetings. Congressional Hill Meetings will take place May 10 from 9 AM – 2 PM;

AMI Advocacy continued on Page 5

An aerial photograph of a marina with clear turquoise water. Numerous small boats are scattered throughout the water. In the bottom right corner, a large, modern dock structure is visible, with several larger yachts moored alongside it. The dock has a grey concrete surface and black metal railings.

ASSOCIATION OF
**MARINA
INDUSTRIES**

Professional Marina Resource Guide

THE RESOURCE
for Marina Owners,
Operators and Professionals
to source essential products
and services, in 2022

over 100 members of the recreational boating industry will meet with members of Congress to discuss topics like the PREPARE Act, the Right Whale boating restrictions, and other topics.

Learn more about the American Boating Congress here. To learn more about AMI's Advocacy work look here.

ORR Releases April Roundtable Roundup

AMI is a proud founding member of the Outdoor Recreation Roundtable. Here is what went on at ORR in April 2023.

ORR Meets with Confluence of States -- ORR staff joined several state Office of Outdoor Recreation (OREC) directors for Confluence of States meetings in Maryland and Washington, D.C. earlier this month. ORR and state directors met with federal agency leadership and Members of Congress to discuss how they can strengthen existing partnerships and bring new state Offices of Outdoor Recreation online.

ORR President Speaks at TRCP Awards Dinner -- ORR President Jessica Turner spoke at the 15th annual Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership Capital Conservation Awards Dinner earlier this month. The event honored Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV), Congressman Blake Moore (R-UT), former National Wild Turkey Federation CEO and ORR member Becky Humphries, and Pheasants Forever & Quail Forever President and CEO Howard Vincent.

Turner presented Senator Manchin with the James D. Range Conservation Award and thanked him for his constant support of the outdoor recreation economy. This includes introduction of the America's Outdoor Recreation Act, a bipartisan piece of legislation that would transform how Americans access their public lands and waters. For more.

AMI Signs-On to LAKES Act Letter of Support

AMI joined other associations in support of the LAKES Act. The Lake Access Keeping Economies Strong Act is bipartisan bill that would improve outdoor recreation facilities in U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)-managed areas, provide new opportunities for public-private investments, and give local districts more flexibility to reinvest their resources.

"Because of discrepancies in federal law, managers of some of North Dakotans' favorite outdoor recreation sites have to get approval from Washington to initiate operations and maintenance projects. And, unlike every other federal land management agency, the Army Corps cannot retain recreation fees at the sites where they're collected," said Senator Cramer. "This makes no sense. Our bipartisan bill would keep resources and decision-making closer to home, while providing new opportunities for private investment in our recreation facilities."

"This bipartisan legislation will make it possible for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to enter joint management partnerships with Tribes and nonprofits, and it ensures that recreation fees collected at Army Corps lakes stay in the community and actually go toward improving those facilities. These reforms will make a difference to New Mexican families enjoying a cook-out at Santa Rosa Lake. They are critical to Abiquiu Lake's role in managing our Rio Chama water. And they are essential to building partnerships with Tribes and nonprofits as we care for our federal outdoor spaces together," said Senator Heinrich.

The USACE is one of the nation's largest federal outdoor recreation providers, managing nearly 257,000 facilities across 43 states. Under existing law, local USACE managers cannot retain recreation fee revenues collected onsite, an authority afforded to the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and National Parks Service. For more. To learn more about the LAKES Act see here.



News From Washington

CoastalRecreation.org Amplifies Concerns Over Proposed Vessel Speed Restrictions

The recreational boating and fishing community is at the forefront of marine conservation and knows firsthand that protecting coastal recreation is vital to creating a sustainable future for our oceans and the marine wildlife that call them home.

As many in the marine community are aware, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is preparing to finalize new regulations along the Atlantic Coast that, while designed to protect the endangered North Atlantic right whale, unfortunately come at the expense of coastal recreation, including fishing, boating and tourism. The truth is, coastal communities rely on recreation to support their livelihoods and pump money into their economies. The recreational boating industry alone creates an estimated \$230 billion in economic activity across the U.S. each year. But it's not just about economics. Coastal recreation is a way of life for many Americans, providing opportunities for relaxation, exercise, and connection with nature, and must be preserved for future generations.

Responsible stewardship of our oceans requires us to consider the needs of all stakeholders, including coastal communities and businesses. As a result, a broad group of marine organizations recently launched CoastalRecreation.org as the recreational marine community works together to advocate for and urge NOAA to create a balanced approach that protects the endangered North Atlantic right whale and coastal recreation.

The group is asking stakeholders across the recreational marine community to learn more and engage on this important issue by visiting the site regularly to stay up to date on the latest news, understand how

NOAA's rule will drastically impact coastal recreation access and communities and ways to get involved. Interested stakeholders are also encouraged to share the site across industry communications and social media channels.

Georgia Governor Brian Kemp Signs Legislation to Promote Boater Safety and Access for Towed Watersports

Recreational boating industry stakeholders including NMMA, WSIA, Yamaha, and others joined Georgia Governor Brian Kemp for an official signing ceremony of towed watersports legislation that included strengthening safety and access opportunities for wakesurfing and wakeboarding. The new law took effect upon the Governor's signature and followed bordering states, South Carolina, and Tennessee, in proactively keeping boaters and towed water sports enthusiasts safe on the water.

"We appreciate the leadership of Governor Kemp and the Georgia General Assembly in passing this legislation," said Ben Murray, Manager of Southeast Policy & Engagement for NMMA. "This commonsense legislation enhances safety and maintains the ability for every user group to share the states' waterways while alleviating environmental impact concerns."

Introduced by Representative Victor Anderson and sponsored by Senate President Pro Tempore John Kennedy, the bill enhances safety requirements for those wakesurfing and wakeboarding by:

- Requiring operators to stay at least 200 feet away from any moored vessel; any wharf, dock, pier, piling, or bridge structure or abutment; or any shoreline adjacent to a full-time or part-time residence, public park, public beach, public swimming area, marina, restaurant, or other public use areas.

News from Washington continued on Page 7

- Riders engaging in towed watersports must wear a personal flotation device.
- Prohibits wakesurfing and wakeboarding between the hours of sunset and sunrise.

The bill also exempts intracoastal waterways, rivers, or private lakes as well as any regatta, boat race, marine parade, tournament, or exhibition for which the commissioner of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources has granted a marine event permit.

White House Issues Proclamation Recognizing National Safe Boating Week

In recognition of National Safe Boating Week (NSBW), the White House press office has issued a formal proclamation calling for safe and responsible boating practices while on the water.

Recognizing the importance of safe boating practices, the White House is formally recognizing National Safe Boating Week from May 20 through May 26, 2023, and encouraging all who participate in boating activities to learn more about safe boating practices and by take advantage of boating safety education opportunities.

To help support NSBW, the NMMA and Discover Boating are sharing safety-related content on social media platforms throughout the week encouraging boaters to refresh their safety knowledge and boating skills heading into Memorial Day weekend and throughout peak boating season.

Industry partners are encouraged to get involved by sharing boating safety content with their customers and boater networks. Find additional resources in the Safe Boating Campaign's National Safe Boating Week toolkit here.

America's Outdoor Recreation Package Gains Momentum, Advances out of Senate Committee

America's Outdoor Recreation Act (AORA) passed out of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources via unanimous consent this week, a testament to its bipartisan appeal and transformative impact on recreation access. AORA is a first-of-its-kind recreation package that will boost local and national economies and provide more Americans — especially those in underserved areas — greater access to green spaces and public lands and waters while not costing taxpayers a dime to implement.

The outdoor recreation industry contributes \$862 billion dollars to the national economy, makes up nearly 2% of national GDP and generates 4.5 million jobs according to the U.S. Department of Commerce. It is a huge economic driver for both rural and urban communities in every corner of the country, underscoring the importance of adequate infrastructure funding and improved access to recreation opportunities across communities.

America's Outdoor Recreation Act would:

- enable permit streamlining to ease burdens on outfitters and guides and improve access to outdoor experiences;
- improve access to recreation on public lands and waters;
- ensure access to green spaces in underserved communities;
- update outdoor recreation infrastructure;
- develop, improve, and complete long range trails;
- and invest in rural economic development.

"America's Outdoor Recreation Act will bolster outdoor recreation access and opportunities for the millions of Americans who continue to discover the benefits of the great outdoors and time spent on our nation's lands and waters," said Frank Hugelmeyer, NMMA president. "We thank Senators Manchin and Barrasso for their bipartisan leadership in advancing this critical bill and urge Congress to swiftly consider and pass the bill in the weeks to come."

Legislation & Partnerships

American Boating Congress Report

By Eric Kretsch

This year's American Boating Congress (ABC) took place May 8 – 10 in Washington, D.C. The event, punctuated by Capitol Hill Meetings, is also a place to learn about our industry's most dire issues.

Schedule at a Glance

ABC kicked off Monday evening with a networking reception and opening presentation. On Tuesday, attendees heard from multiple policy experts on the most important issues. Speakers included – Jonathan Martin of Politico and NMMA staff. In the evening, BoatPAC held a reception on the docks at the Wharf D.C.

Wednesday was dedicated to congressional hill meetings; over 100 members of the recreational boating industry met with staffers and members of Congress.

BoatPAC reception

On Tuesday night, BoatPAC hosted a reception for supporters of BoatPAC. The mission of BoatPAC is to support legislators on both sides of the aisle that understand the importance of the recreational boating community. Our champions in Congress are helping to advance our full range of priorities, and we must work to keep them there. All contributions to BoatPAC go to candidates for federal office. BoatPAC is the only federal political action committee for the recreational boating industry.

Currently, BoatPAC supports legislators from both sides of the aisle. This is important because our industry's issues have bipartisan support from conservation to U.S. manufacturing; both sides care about our issues. It is strategically important to

Issues discussed

Economic Impact – The recreational boating industry has an annual economic impact of over \$203 Billion. The industry supports over 812,00 jobs and 36,000 businesses across the U.S. More than 85 million Americans go boating yearly, and nearly 12 million registered boats are registered in the U.S.

Maintain Boating Access - NOAA North Atlantic Right Whale Vessel Strike Reduction rule –

Infrastructure – Modernized, climate-resilient infrastructure is essential to get boaters on the water and to ensure the boating industry's success. As more Americans enjoy the great outdoors, the national recreation infrastructure is experiencing rapid wear and tear and is increasingly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Right now, the PREPARE Act and the LAKES Act are two pieces of legislation of importance to boating infrastructure.

The PREPARE Act supports private sector investment in resilient infrastructure through the Small Business Administration. The LAKES Act addresses long-standing infrastructure and recreation management resources needs for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the largest provider of water-based public recreation opportunities. The LAKES Act allows USACE localities to retain part of their fees for operating and maintaining their facilities.

Clean Vessel Act – The CVA provides funds for pump out infrastructure. AMI is looking to expand the use of this fund for other forms of clean and green infrastructure and marina employee and boater infrastructure.

Congressional meetings report out

AMI staff led the Rhode Island team and met with the staff of three congress members from the state.

Legislations & Partnerships continued on Page 9

Senator Jack Reed – Discussed NOAA Right Whale Strike Reduction rule, including discussing industry-lead technical solutions that would reduce the likelihood of recreational boat whale strikes. AMI discussed the Whale and Vessel Safety Taskforce, an industry lead coalition looking for technological solutions to the whale strike issue.

We also discussed infrastructure – infrastructure issues are a top priority for marina and boatyards as our infrastructure is only as safe and resilient as the public infrastructure around our businesses. We discussed the PREPARE Act and Lakes Act. We also thanked Senator Reed for his participation in the Boating Caucus.

Senator Sheldon Whitehouse – This discussion was similar to the above, but there was also interest in discussing the Clean Vessel Act.

Representative David Cicillini – Representative Cicillini is stepping down from Congress on June 1, 2023. Representative Cicillini is a long-time member of the Boating Caucus. We used this opportunity to thank Representative Cicillini for over a decade of service to the state of Rhode Island and the recreational boating industry.

Become a Certified Marina Manager (CMM) or Certified Marina Operator (CMO)



CMM/CMO

Certified Marina Managers (CMM) and Certified Marina Operators (CMO) are marina professionals who have completed an extensive training and certification process through the globally recognized International Marina Institute (IMI) and embrace the continuance of education and training for themselves and those who work within the marina industry.

How do I become a CMM or CMO?

Step 1

Attend the **Intermediate Marina Management Course (IMM)**. This course focuses on marina operations, policies, and procedures. Marina-man-agement pros offer their expert thinking about business issues and challenges throughout the industry.

Topics include marina-law risk and liabilities, fire and emergency-response planning, environmental management, health and safety compliance, and personal self improvement skills

*Must have one year of marina management experience to attend.

Step 2

Attend the **Advance Marina Management Course (AMM)**. Through small groups, interactive workshops, and specific case studies, the AMM course examines such topics as profit-center management, regulations and permit-ting, operations, marina law, human resource management, risk management and loss control, improving the quality and value of services, policy and procedure manuals, business strategy and financial management, marketing, promotion, and pricing.

The AMM offers its graduates a national and international business perspec-tive on management issues, and a long-term network of international con-tacts to rely on in the future.

*Must have three years of marina management experience and attended IMM Course.

Step 3

Upon completion of the IMM and AMM courses you then apply for the certification that you qualify for, CMM or CMO.



Our Work on the Hill

In April, members of the Lobbyit team met with staff for Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) to discuss his recently introduced bill, S.647 - Hydrogen for Ports Act of 2023.

The bill would establish a grant program to support hydrogen & ammonia-fueled equipment at ports where the Coast Guard operates. Its intended purpose is to understand the use of these fuels in maritime utilization.

Although the bill doesn't immediately warrant AMI's attention or advocacy, Sen. Cornyn is a valuable member to connect you with and our team will find time at the conclusion of the American Boating Congress to make an introduction.

Washington Update

Secretary Janet Yellen advised that Congress would need to raise the debt limit by early June in a letter to congressional leaders noting that action may even be needed before June 1. After that date, the Treasury Department estimates there's a real risk of running out of cash and accounting maneuvers to continue paying bondholders and other U.S. financial obligations on time.

Outstanding U.S. debt already reached the statutory \$31.4 trillion borrowing limit in January, and Treasury has been using "extraordinary measures" since then to keep spending without breaching the cap. At the time Treasury began deploying those accounting tools, Yellen said how long they would last was subject to "considerable uncertainty."

President Joe Biden and Speaker Kevin McCarthy didn't appear to get any closer to agreement on how to raise the debt ceiling in a May meeting which was their first since February 1.

But despite familiar rhetoric from both parties, Biden and congressional leaders plan to continue meeting and staff from both sides of the aisle continue to discuss how to bridge the partisan divide over spending curbs that Republicans want.

As the country barrels toward running out of borrowing room and being unable to pay all its bills on time as early as June 1, both sides are still dug in. Biden and congressional Democrats want a clean debt ceiling increase, while McCarthy and other Republicans are demanding concessions.

Biden said he wouldn't rule out a short-term debt limit patch to buy more time for talks on a longer-term solution.

McConnell told reporters after the meeting that the U.S. will not "default" on its debt. When asked the same question, McCarthy said he can only control what the House does and that his chamber has already acted. House Republicans passed a bill last month to raise the debt limit in exchange for spending curbs and a slew of other Republican priorities.

It's important to remember that breaching the debt ceiling doesn't mean defaulting on the national debt. Rather, it means the federal government will have to prioritize spending on the discretionary side of the ledger. In other words, the spending bill passed late last year would be vastly altered if no agreement can be reached.

Limit, Save, Grow Act

Speaker Kevin McCarthy helped himself considerably—and quieted more than a few of his critics—by muscling a debt ceiling plan through the House in early May. But the good feelings may recede as the fine print gets more scrutiny. The proposed spending caps in the House-passed bill are too low to be taken seriously and would be risky for the country if they were.

McCarthy's plan—the Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023—pairs a \$1.5 trillion increase in the limit on federal borrowing, or a suspension through March 2024 if new borrowing at that point is less than \$1.5 trillion, with numerous GOP budget and policy priorities.

LobbyIT continued on Page 12

Among other things, the bill would repeal many climate-related subsidies enacted in last year's Inflation Reduction Act. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates the full plan, including reduced

interest payments on the debt, would lower federal borrowing over 10 years by \$4.8 trillion (a Rules Committee modification produced modest changes to the original estimate).

Bills by Issue: Association of Marina Industries (10)

State: US	Bill Number: HR 186	Last Action: Referred To The Subcommittee On Water Wildlife And Fisheries 2023-02-21	Status: In House	Position: None	Priority: None	<div> <div>PN Outlook</div> <div> <div>9.9%</div> <div>73.1%</div> </div> </div>
Title: Water Supply Permitting Coordination Act		Introduction Date: 2023-01-09				
Primary Sponsors: Tom McClintock						

State: US	Bill Number: HR 215	Last Action: Ordered To Be Reported Amended By The Yeas And Nays 2023-04-28	Status: In House	Position: Monitor	Priority: Medium	<div> <div>PN Outlook</div> <div> <div>9.9%</div> <div>73.1%</div> </div> </div>
Title: WATER for California Act		<p>Bill Summary: Last edited by Jacob Kolm at Feb 24, 2023, 2:24 PM This bill focuses on streamlining operations, expanding water storage infrastructure, and increasing accountability. The extreme storms, rainfall, and flooding impacting California right now highlight the importance of increasing water storage to capture this rainfall. The WATER for California Act expands water storage infrastructure so that we are better prepared for future storms and can make use of this water during dry years. Among other provisions, the WATER For California Act: - Requires the Central Valley Project (CVP) and State Water Project (SWP) be operated consistent with the 2019 regulations, which were independently peer-reviewed and informed by the most accurate, best available science, but allows modification under certain circumstances. - Helps to ensure CVP and SWP water stakeholders receive the water they contracted and pay for. - Provides eligibility for funding for the Shasta Damgement Project. - Reauthorizes the successful surface water storage project program and coordinated operations of the CVP and SWP established by the WYIN Act.</p>				
Primary Sponsors: David Valadao		Introduction Date: 2023-01-09				

LobbyIT continued on Page 13

Bill

115

Bill Number

HR 289

Location

Referred To [The Subcommittee On Water Wildlife And Fisheries](#) 2023-02-21

Status

In House

Editor

Monitor

Priority

Medium

9 Votes

107%

Title

Protect Our Water Banks Act

Primary Sponsors

Doug LaMalfa

Bill Summary: Last edited by Jacob Korn at Feb 24, 2023, 2:25 PM

- Mandates 100% contract water deliveries to water districts by Reclamation in normal or above normal precipitation years and guarantees additional water in dry years. - Require in-person field briefings and outreach, in each county where a Central Valley Project (CVP) water contractor is located, after Reclamation's initial allocation announcements and before the allocation announcement for April is made. - Reduces or eliminates the operation and maintenance (O&M) payments required to be paid by CVP water contractors, based on reductions in water allocations. - Requires the Bureau of Reclamation to assess and report on what debt is still owed by the irrigators of the Klamath Project. - Prohibits the Bureau of Reclamation from releasing stored water created by the Klamath Project in Upper Klamath Lake, except for agricultural and refuge purposes associated with State-adjudicated water rights, and to otherwise maximize total storage volume in Upper Klamath Lake.

Introduction Date: 2023-01-11

Bill

115

Bill Number

HR 289

Location

Referred To [The Subcommittee On Water Wildlife And Fisheries](#) 2023-02-21

Status

In House

Editor

Monitor

Priority

Medium

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Introduction Date: 2023-01-11

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 1044	Referred To <u>The</u> House Committee On Ways And Means 2023 02 14	In House	None	Low	<div>4.49%77.66%</div>
Title			Introduction Date: 2023-02-14			
Maritime Fuel Tax Parity Act						
Description						
Maritime Fuel Tax Parity Act This bill extends the exemption from the excise tax on motor boat or motor vehicle fuels sold or used as supplies for certain vessels or aircraft engaged in trade between U.S. Atlantic or Pacific ports.						
Primary Sponsors						
John Rutherford						

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 1152	Placed On <u>The</u> Union Calendar Calendar No 5 2023 03 17	In House	Monitor	Low	<div>29.8%71.7%</div>
Title			Introduction Date: 2023-02-24			
Water Quality Certification and Energy Project Improvement Act of 2023						
Primary Sponsors						
David Rouzer						

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority	FN Outlook
US	HR 1181	Referred To <u>The</u> Subcommittee On Water Resources And Environment 2023-02-27	In House	None	None	<div><div>+1.3%</div><div>+1.6%</div></div>
Title			Introduction Date: 2023-02-24			
To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act with respect to permitting terms, and for other purposes.						
Description						
This bill extends the maximum term for certain permits issued under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) program. Specifically, the bill extends the maximum term for NPDES permits issued to states or municipalities from 5 to 10 years. Under the program, the Environmental Protection Agency issues permits to discharge pollutants from point sources, such as pipes, into waters of the United States.						
Primary Sponsors						
John Garamendi						

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Location	Interest	FN Outlook
US	S 64	Read Twice <u>And</u> Referred To The Committee On Energy And Natural Resources 2023-01-25	In Senate	None	None	<div><div>28.4%</div><div>75.3%</div></div>
<hr/>						
Title			Introduction Date: 2023-01-25			
Water Rights Protection Act of 2023						
Description						
<p>Water Rights Protection Act of 2023. This bill prohibits the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture from ⁽¹⁾ conditioning the issuance, renewal, amendment, or extension of any permit or other land use or occupancy agreement (permit) on the transfer of any water right to the United States or on any impairment of the right granted or otherwise recognized under state law by federal or state action; ⁽²⁾ requiring any water user (including a federally recognized Indian tribe) to apply for or acquire a water right in the name of the United States under state law as a condition of the issuance, renewal, amendment, or extension of such a permit; or ⁽³⁾ conditioning or withholding the issuance, renewal, amendment, or extension of such a permit on limiting the date, time, quantity, location of diversion or pumping, or place of use of a state water right beyond any limitations under state water law, or on the modification of the terms and conditions of groundwater withdrawal, guidance and reporting program, or conservation and source protection measures established by a state. In developing any rule or similar federal action relating to the issuance, renewal, amendment, or extension of any permit, such departments ⁽¹⁾ shall recognize the longstanding water use authority of the states and coordinate with the states to ensure that any federal action is consistent with applicable state water law; and ⁽²⁾ shall not adversely affect the authority of a state in permitting the beneficial use of water or adjudicating water rights.</p>						
Primary Sponsors						
John Boozman						

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Priority	Priority	FN Outlook
US	S 115	Read Twice <u>And</u> Referred To The Committee On Environment And Public Works 2023-01-26	In Senate	None	None	<div><div>28.4%</div><div>75.3%</div></div>
Title			Introduction Date: 2023-01-26			
Clean Water Allotment Modernization Act of 2023						
Primary Sponsors						
Marco Rubio						

State	Bill Number	Last Action	Status	Process	Priority	Progress
US	S 161	Read Twice And Referred To The Committee On Health Education Labor And Pensions 2023 01 31	In Senate	Monitor	Medium	<div> <div>19% Passed</div> <div>20% Failed</div> <div>79% Pending</div> </div>
<hr/>						
Title		Bill Summary: Last edited by Jacob Kohn at Feb 15, 2023, 3:38 PM				
JOBS Act of 2023		Specifically, the JOBS Act would amend the Higher Education Act by:				
Primary Sponsors		Expanding Pell Grant eligibility to students enrolled in rigorous and high-quality, short-term skills and job training programs that lead to industry-recognized credentials and certificates and ultimately employment in high-wage, high-skill industry sectors or careers Ensuring students who receive Pell Grants are earning high-quality postsecondary credentials by requiring that the credentials:				
Tim Kaine		- Meet the standards under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), such as meaningful career counseling and aligning programs to in-demand career pathways or registered apprenticeship programs - Are recognized by employers, industry, or sector partnerships - Align with the skill needs of industries in the state or local economy - Are approved by the state workforce board in addition to the U.S. Department of Education Defining eligible job training programs as those providing career and technical education instruction at an institution of higher education, such as a community or technical college that provides:				
		- At least 150 clock hours of instruction time over a period of at least 8 weeks - Training that meets the needs of the local or regional workforce and industry partnerships - Streamlined ability to transfer credits so students can continue to pursue further education in their careers - Students with licenses, certifications, or credentials that meet the hiring requirements of multiple employers in the field for which the job training is offered				
		Introduction Date: 2023 01 31				

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