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H.R. 338 — To Promote a 21st Century Energy and Manufacturing Workforce (Rush, D-IL)

CONTACT: [Noelani Bonifacio](#), 202-226-9719

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on June 12, 2017 under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 338](#) would direct the Secretary of Energy to prioritize education and training for energy and manufacturing-related jobs to increase the number of skilled workers in those fields.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CBO [estimated](#) that implementing H.R. 4583, passed in the 114th Congress and identical to H.R. 338, would have had no significant effect on the federal budget. Agency costs related to workforce development would be insignificant. Enacting the bill would not have affected direct spending or revenues, so pay-as-you go procedures would not apply.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 338 would direct the Secretary of Energy to: (1) encourage the nation's education system to equip students with the skills, mentorships, and training to fill the employment opportunities vital to managing and operating the energy and manufacturing industries; and, (2) strengthen and more fully engage Department of Energy programs and labs in carrying out the department's workforce development initiatives, including the Minorities in Energy Initiative.

The secretary would also be directed: (1) to make educating and training underrepresented groups for energy and manufacturing-related jobs a national priority; and, (2) to establish a clearinghouse to maintain and update information and resources on training and workforce development programs for energy and manufacturing-related jobs.

The Secretary of Energy would be directed to: (1) give special consideration to increasing outreach to minority serving institutions (including historically Black colleges and universities, predominantly Black institutions, Hispanic serving institutions, Native American serving nontribal institutions, and tribal institutions); (2) make existing resources available through program cross-cutting to minority serving institutions; (3) encourage industry to improve the opportunities for students of minority serving institutions to participate in industry internships and cooperative work/study programs; and, (4) partner

with the Department of Energy laboratories to increase underrepresented groups' participation in internships, fellowships, traineeships, and employment at all Department of Energy laboratories.

The Secretary of Energy would additionally be directed to give special consideration to increasing outreach to employers and job trainers preparing displaced and unemployed energy and manufacturing workers. The bill would further require the Secretary of Energy to submit a report to Congress on the outlook for energy and manufacturing sectors nationally. The bill would stipulate that amounts required for carrying out H.R. 338 would be derived from amounts appropriated under authority provided by previously enacted law.

H.R. 338 contains identical language to H.R. 4583, which passed the House in the 114th Congress by voice-vote on February 29, 2016. The RSC's legislative bulletin for H.R. 4538 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

This bill was introduced on January 5, 2017 and referred to the House Committees on Education and the Workforce, and Energy and Commerce. A mark-up was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution."

H.R. 446 — To extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project (Griffith, R-VA)

CONTACT: [Noelani Bonifacio](#), 202-226-9719

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on June 12, 2017 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 446](#) would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to extend the deadline for initiating construction of a hydroelectric project ([number 12737](#)) at the Gathright Hydroelectric Project in Virginia.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CBO [estimated](#) that implementing H.R. 4411, passed in the 114th Congress and identical to H.R. 446, would have had no net effect on the federal budget. CBO estimated the bill could have had a minor impact on the agency's workload, however because the agency's costs are recovered through user fees, there would have been no net change in federal spending. Enacting the bill would not have affected direct spending or revenues, so pay-as-you go procedures would not apply.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

There are no substantive concerns.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 446 would authorize FERC to extend the time period at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice, for up to 3 consecutive 2-year periods during which the licensee is required to commence construction of a hydroelectric project at the Gathright Hydroelectric Project in Virginia. Under current law, a license is automatically revoked if the licensee does not begin construction within two years of issuance, or within a maximum of four years if FERC uses its authority to extend the deadline. The Gathright project was originally licensed in 2012. The license was scheduled to be automatically revoked on March 13, 2016, and construction has not yet commenced.

H.R. 446 contains identical language to H.R. 4411, which passed the House in the 114th Congress by voice-vote on March 14, 2016. The RSC's legislative bulletin for H.R. 4411 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 446 was introduced on January 25, 2017 where it was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. A mark-up was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill's sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution".

H.R. 447 — To extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project (Griffith, R-VA)

CONTACT: [Noelani Bonifacio](#), 202-226-9719

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on June 12, 2017 under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 447](#) would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to extend the deadline for initiating construction of a hydroelectric project ([number 12740](#)) at the Flannagan Hydroelectric Project in Virginia.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CBO [estimated](#) that implementing H.R. 447, passed in the 114th Congress and identical to H.R. 447, would have had no net effect on the federal budget. CBO estimated the bill could have had a minor impact on the agency's workload, however because the agency's costs are recovered through user fees, there would be no net change in federal spending. Enacting the bill would not have affected direct spending or revenues, so pay-as-you go procedures would not apply.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

There are no substantive concerns.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 447 would authorize FERC to extend the time period at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice, for up to 3 consecutive 2-year periods during which the licensee is required to commence construction of a hydroelectric project at the Flannagan Hydroelectric Project in Virginia. Under current law, a license is automatically revoked if the licensee does not begin construction within two years of issuance, or within a maximum of four years if FERC uses its authority to extend the deadline. The Flannagan project was originally licensed in 2012, and the license was automatically revoked in January 2016.

H.R. 447 contains identical language to H.R. 4412, which passed the House in the 114th Congress by voice-vote on March 14, 2016. The RSC's legislative bulletin for H.R. 4412 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

This bill was introduced on January 11, 2017 and referred to the House Committees on Energy and Commerce. A mark-up was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution."

H.R. 627 — Streamlining Energy Efficiency for Schools Act of 2017 (Cartwright, D-PA)

CONTACT: [Noelani Bonifacio](#), 202-226-9719

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on June 12, 2017 under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 627](#) would direct the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy to establish a clearinghouse to disseminate information regarding available Federal programs and financing mechanisms that may be used to help initiate, develop, and finance energy efficiency, distributed generation, and energy retrofitting projects for schools.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

Many conservatives have supported appropriations amendments to eliminate funding for the Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy office at the Department of Energy, which is charged with carrying out the functions of the bill.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 627 would amend section 392 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act ([42 U.S.C. 6371a](#)) by directing the Department of Energy's Office of Energy and Renewable Energy (EERE) to establish a clearinghouse to disseminate information regarding available federal programs and financing mechanisms that may be used to help initiate, develop, and finance energy efficiency, distributed generation, and energy retrofitting projects for schools. The Secretary of Energy would be required to: (1) consult with appropriate federal agencies to develop a list of federal programs and financing mechanisms that may be used for the purposes of disseminating information; and, (2) coordinate with appropriate federal agencies to develop a collaborative education and outreach effort to streamline communications and promote available federal programs and financing mechanisms, which may include the development and maintenance of a single online resource that includes contact information for relevant technical assistance in the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy that states, local education agencies, and schools may use to effectively access and use such federal programs and financing mechanisms.

Many conservatives have traditionally opposed the underlying programs within the EERE office that would be covered by information included in the clearinghouse. Several amendments have been offered on appropriations measures since 2011 to eliminate funding for such programs.

H.R. 627 contains identical language to H.R. 756, which passed the House in the 114th Congress by voice-vote on December 6, 2016. The RSC's legislative bulletin for H.R. 756 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

This bill was introduced by on January 24, 2017 and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. A mark-up was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power of Congress to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.)"

H.R. 951 — To extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project (Foxx, R-NC)

CONTACT: [Noelani Bonifacio](#), 202-226-9719

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Expected to be considered on June 12, 2017 under a suspension of the rules, which requires a 2/3 majority for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 951](#) would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to extend the deadline for initiating construction of a hydroelectric project ([number 12642](#)) at the W. Kerr Scott Hydropower Project in North Carolina.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CBO [estimated](#) that implementing H.R. 3447, passed in the 114th Congress and identical to H.R. 951, would have had no net effect on the federal budget. CBO estimated the bill could have had a minor impact on the agency's workload, however because the agency's costs are recovered through user fees, there would be no net change in federal spending. Enacting the bill would not have affected direct spending or revenues, so pay-as-you go procedures would not apply.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

There are no substantive concerns.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No.
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 951 would authorize FERC to extend the time period at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice, for up to 3 consecutive 2-year periods during which the licensee is required to commence construction of a hydroelectric project at the W. Kerr Scott Hydropower Project in North Carolina. Under current law, a license is automatically revoked if the licensee does not begin construction within two years of issuance, or within a maximum of four years if FERC uses its authority to extend the deadline. The W. Kerr Scott project was originally licensed in 2012, and the license was automatically revoked in July 2016, before construction is scheduled to begin.

H.R. 951 contains identical language to H.R. 3447, which passed the House in the 114th Congress by a vote of [406-3](#) on March 15, 2016. The RSC's legislative bulletin for H.R. 3447 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

This bill was introduced by on February 10, 2017 and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. A mark-up was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

No Statement of Administration Policy is available at this time.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: “Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18, Congress may enact laws necessary and proper to the execution of its enumerated powers. As this legislation solely amends the amount of time available for execution of previously granted authority, it is merely technical in nature and an appropriate exercise of Congress' authority to amend its previous actions through necessary and proper statutes”.

H.R. 1109 — To amend section 203 of the Federal Power Act (Walberg, R-MI)

CONTACT: [Noelani Bonifacio](#), 202-226-9719

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on June 12, 2017 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 1109](#) would modify a public utility's authority to merge or consolidate its facilities in excess of \$10,000,000.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CBO [estimated](#) that implementing H.R. 4427, passed in the 114th Congress and identical to H.R. 1109, would have had no significant net effect on the federal budget. CBO estimated that bill would reduce the agency's administrative costs by less than \$150,000 annually. However because the agency's costs are recovered through user fees, there would have been no net change in federal spending. Enacting the bill would not have affected direct spending or revenues, so pay-as-you go procedures would not apply

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

There are no substantive concerns

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 1109 would amend section [203\(a\)\(1\)\(B\) of the Federal Power Act](#) by exempting public utility mergers or consolidation of facilities valued under \$10 million from Federal Energy Regulatory Commission oversight.

H.R. 1109 contains identical language to H.R. 4427, which passed the House in the 114th Congress by voice-vote on March 14, 2016. The RSC's legislative bulletin for H.R. 4427 can be found [here](#).

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 1109 was introduced on February 16, 2017 where it was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. A mark-up was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill's sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution, Which gives Congress the power to `regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes".

H.R. 2122 — To extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving Jennings Randolph Dam (McKinley, R-WV)

CONTACT: [Noelani Bonifacio](#), 202-226-9719

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on June 12, 2017 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 2122](#) would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to extend the deadline for initiating construction of a hydroelectric project ([number 12715](#)) at Jennings Randolph Hydroelectric Project in West Virginia.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CBO [estimated](#) that implementing H.R. 4416, passed in the 114th Congress and identical to H.R. 2122, would have had no net effect on the federal budget. CBO estimated the bill could have had a minor impact on the agency's workload, however because the agency's costs are recovered through user fees, there would be no net change in federal spending. Enacting the bill would not have affected direct spending or revenues, so pay-as-you go procedures would not apply.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

There are no substantive concerns

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 2122 would authorize FERC to extend the time period at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice, for up to 3 consecutive 2-year periods during which the licensee is required to commence construction of a hydroelectric project at the Jennings Randolph Hydroelectric Project in West Virginia. Under current law, a license is automatically revoked if the licensee does not begin construction within two years of issuance, or within a maximum of four years if FERC uses its authority to extend the deadline. The Jennings Randolph project was originally licensed in 2012, and the license is scheduled to be automatically revoked before construction is expected to begin.

H.R. 2122 contains similar language to H.R. 4416, which passed the House in the 114th Congress by a vote of [418-2](#) on March 16, 2016. The RSC's legislative bulletin for H.R. 4416 can be found [here](#).

H.R. 2122 makes one change to the previously passed bill (H.R. 4416 in the 114th). Previously passed legislation stated that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall reinstate the license when expired. The current language states that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission may reinstate the license. FERC granted a two-year delay of the construction deadlines in 2016.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 2122 was introduced on April 25, 2017 where it was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. A mark-up was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill's sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "According to Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution: The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States but all duties, imposts, and excises shall be uniform throughout".

H.R. 2274 — Hydropower Permit Extension (HYPE) Act (Peters, D-CA)

CONTACT: [Noelani Bonifacio](#), 202-226-9719

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on June 12, 2017 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 2274](#) would increase the amount of time permits and licenses may be issued for by the Federal Power Commission for the construction of dams, conduits, reservoirs, and other hydropower components.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

There are no substantive concerns.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

The Federal Power Commission has the authority to issue licenses for the construction of dams, conduits and reservoirs. To enable the applicants to obtain the information that is required when submitting an application for a license, the commission issues preliminary permits.

Under current law, permits may be issued by the Federal Power Commission for three years, with a possible two year extension. H.R. 2274 would increase this time period and allow permits to be issued for four years with a possible four year extension. In addition, the bill clarifies that the commission may extend the permit if extraordinary circumstances warrant an extension.

Once a license is approved, under current law ([16 U.S.C. 806](#)) the licensee has two years to begin the construction of the project. H.R. 2274 increases this time period to up to eight years.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 2274 was introduced on January 25, 2017 where it was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. A mark-up was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill's sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution".

H.R. 2292 — To extend a project of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission involving the Cannonsville Dam (Faso, R-NY)

CONTACT: [Noelani Bonifacio](#), 202-226-9719

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on June 12, 2017 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 2292](#) would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to extend the deadline for initiating construction of a hydroelectric project ([number 12715](#)) at Cannonsville Dam in New York.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

According to the CBO [estimate](#) for the Senate companion measure, implementing S. 734 would not have a net effect on the federal budget. The bill could have a minor effect of the FERC's workload. Direct spending and revenues would not be affected, so pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

There are no substantive concerns.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 2292 would authorize FERC to extend the time period at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice, for up to 4 consecutive 2-year periods during which the licensee is required to commence construction of a hydroelectric project at the Cannonsville Dam in New York.

Under current law, a license is automatically revoked if the licensee does not begin construction within two years of issuance, or within a maximum of four years if FERC uses its authority to extend the deadline. The Cannonsville project was originally licensed in 2014, and the license will be automatically revoked should construction not commence before May 2018. In the final design phase of this [project](#), the city hit an underground aquifer, releasing turbid water. The city is now conducting a feasibility study, which has delayed the start of construction.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 2292 was introduced on May 2, 2017 where it was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. A mark-up was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill's sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution".

H.R. 2457 — J. Bennett Johnston Waterway Hydropower Extension Act of 2017 (Johnson, R-LA)

CONTACT: [Noelani Bonifacio](#), 202-226-9719

FLOOR SCHEDULE:

Scheduled for consideration on June 12, 2017 under suspension of the rules, which requires 2/3 vote for passage.

TOPLINE SUMMARY:

[H.R. 2457](#) would authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to extend the deadline for initiating construction of a hydroelectric project (numbered 12756, 12757, and 12758) at [J. Bennett Johnston Waterway](#) in Louisiana.

COST:

No Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimate is available.

Rule 28(a)(1) of the Rules of the Republican Conference prohibit measures from being scheduled for consideration under suspension of the rules without an accompanying cost estimate. Rule 28(b) provides that the cost estimate requirement may be waived by a majority of the Elected Leadership.

CONSERVATIVE CONCERNS:

There are no substantive concerns.

- **Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?** No
- **Encroach into State or Local Authority?** No.
- **Delegate Any Legislative Authority to the Executive Branch?** No.
- **Contain Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?** No.

DETAILED SUMMARY AND ANALYSIS:

H.R. 2457 would authorize FERC to extend the time period at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice, for up to 3 consecutive 2-year periods during which the licensee is required to commence construction of a hydroelectric project at the J. Bennett Johnston Waterway in Louisiana.

Under current law, a license is automatically revoked if the licensee does not begin construction within two years of issuance, or within a maximum of four years if FERC uses its authority to extend the deadline. The permit for the three hydroelectric projects that are part of the J. Bennett Johnston Waterway expired earlier in 2017.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

H.R. 2457 was introduced on May 16, 2017 where it was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce. A mark-up was held and the bill was reported by unanimous consent.

ADMINISTRATION POSITION:

A Statement of Administration Policy is not available.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY:

According to the bill's sponsor: Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following: "Article 1 Section 8". No specific enumerating clause was cited.

NOTE: *RSC Legislative Bulletins are for informational purposes only and should not be taken as statements of support or opposition from the Republican Study Committee.*