



## Legislative Bulletin.....March 9, 2007

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#### H.R. 720 — Amendments to the Water Quality Financing Act of 2007

H.R. 720, the Water Quality Financing Act of 2007 (sponsored by Rep. Oberstar, D-MN), is scheduled to be considered on the House floor today, March 9, 2007, subject to a structured rule ([H.Res. 229](#)), allowing one motion to recommit with instructions. Below is a summary of the manager's amendment, which is self-executed by the rule, and summaries of the amendments made in order by the rule. Amendments are debatable for 10 minutes, unless otherwise noted. Note: summaries are based on RSC staff's review of *actual amendment text*. For a summary of the underlying bill, see a separate RSC document released yesterday.

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***Oberstar (D-MN)—Manager's Amendment.*** **Note:** The rule makes this amendment in order, as a self-executing amendment, which will be considered as adopted on passage of the rule. In addition to making other less substantive changes to the bill, the Oberstar amendment would reauthorize a water program with an expired authorization (a national water information clearing house at the EPA), and increase the authorization level for this program to \$3 million (up from \$1 million).

***Stupak (D-MI).*** Directs the EPA, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Government of Canada, to conduct a study of the condition of wastewater treatment facilities located in the U.S. and Canada that discharge into the Great Lakes. The study is to determine a number of facts regarding the effect of these facilities on the water quality in the Great lakes and to establish a protocol for improved notification and information sharing between the U.S. and Canada.

***Baker/King (R-LA/R-IA).*** Strikes the section of the underlying bill that applies the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirement to construction projects funded through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund authorized in the underlying bill.

***Hall (D-NY).*** The underlying bill requires that states develop a priority list of projects and activities for which assistance is sought from the state's water pollution control revolving fund. In developing their priority list, this amendment would require that states consider "whether the proposed projects and activities would address water quality impairments associated with existing treatment works."

***Platts (D-PA).*** Applies certain competitive requirements for grantees under Title II of the Clean Water Act to contract bids for projects funded through the State Revolving Funds.

**Hirono (D-HI).** Under current law the EPA provides technical assistance grants for treatment works to carry out pilot projects relating to certain areas of wet weather discharge control. This amendment would add the following to the list of activities under this “pilot” program: “The development of an integrated water resource plan for the coordinated management and protection of surface water, ground water, and stormwater resources on a watershed or subwatershed basis to meet the objectives, goals, and policies of this Act.”

**Whitfield (R-KY).** Directs the Army Corps of Engineers to **establish a new, federal pilot program** “that under normal weather conditions, extends the summer pool elevation of 395 feet on such lake [Lake Barkley in Grand Rivers, Kentucky] from the current draw down date of July 1 until after the first Monday in September.” The program would terminate “on the first Monday in September two years after the pilot program begins.” The amendment does not provide an actual year (i.e. “2006”) for the commencement or termination of this program.

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