



GREAT LAKES LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS

FEDERAL GREAT LAKES LEGISLATION, 2015-16

(This list of bills is based on staff research. If you know of legislation that should be added to the list, please contact Tim Anderson at 630.925.1922 or tanderson@csg.org.
The list was last updated on January 2017.)

Bill Number	Description	Primary sponsor/author	Status
H.R. 212/S. 460 (Drinking Water Protection Act)	Require the EPA to submit a strategic plan to Congress for assessing and managing the risks associated with cyanotoxins (a toxic byproduct of harmful algal blooms) in drinking water	U.S. Rep. Bob Latta (Ohio)/U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (Ohio)	H.R. 212 signed into law
H.R. 223 and S. 1024 (Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Act)	Formally authorize Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (funded at \$300 million a year through FY 2020)	U.S. Rep. David Joyce (Ohio) and U.S. Sen. Mark Kirk (Illinois)	H.R. 223 reported out of committee; S. 1024 on Senate Legislative Calendar (funding for GLRI, \$300 million, included in omnibus spending bill)
H.R. 243 (Safe and Secure Drinking Act)	Direct the EPA to publish a health advisory on microcystins (a toxic byproduct of harmful algal blooms) in order to provide municipalities guidance on consumption limits, testing protocols, and treatment methods	U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (Ohio)	Referred to Committee on Energy and Commerce
H.R. 349 (Great Lakes and Fresh Water Algal Bloom Information Act)	Create electronic database of research and information on algal blooms in Great Lakes, their tributaries, and other surface fresh waters	U.S. Rep. Bob Latta (Ohio)	Referred to two committees

Bill Number	Description	Primary sponsor/author	Status
H.R. 594 (Waters of the United States Regulatory Overreach Protection Act)	Prevent EPA from implementing rule that would place certain waters, including wetlands, under protection of Clean Water Act	U.S. Rep. Paul Gosar (Arizona)	Referred to Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
H.R. 1135/S. 589 (Defending Our Great Lakes Act)	Give Army Corps the authority to undertake projects that better control movement of Asian carp and other invasive species at Brandon Road Lock and Dam; require Corps to lead federal efforts that prevent invasive species and provide report to U.S. Congress	U.S. Rep. Candice Miller (Michigan) and U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow (Michigan)	Referred to respective committees; omnibus spending bill gives Corps authority to expedite carp prevention at Brandon Road Lock and Dam
H.R. 1276	Establish a coastal climate change adaptation planning and response program, including how to address fluctuating Great Lakes water levels	U.S. Rep Lois Capps (California)	Referred to Committee on Energy and Mineral Resources
H.R. 1278/ S. 741 (Water Infrastructure Resiliency and Sustainability Act)	Award grants to owners/operators of water systems for increasing resiliency or adaptability of systems to changes in hydrologic conditions	U.S. Rep. Lois Capps (California) and U.S. Sen. Benjamin Cardin (Maryland)	Referred to respective committees
H.R. 1321 (Microbead-Free Waters Act)	Prohibit sale or distribution of cosmetics containing synthetic plastic microbeads	U.S. Rep. Frank Pallone (New Jersey)	Signed into law
H.R. 1705 and S. 2768 (Clean Water Affordability Act)	Assist local communities with plans to control and treat combined sewer and sanitary sewer overflows	U.S. Rep. Robert Latta (Ohio) and U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (Ohio)	Referred to respective committees
H.R. 1732 (Regulatory Integrity Protection Act)	Require withdrawal of proposed rule known as “Definition of ‘Waters of the United States’ Under the Clean Water Act”	U.S. Rep. Bill Shuster	Passed by House
H.R. 1775/S 896	Establish federal grant program to create centers of excellence for innovative stormwater control infrastructure	U.S. Rep. Donna Edwards (Maryland) and U.S. Sen. Tom Udall (New Mexico)	Referred to respective committees
H.R. 1923	Require U.S. EPA to appoint a coordinator for issues relating to harmful algal blooms in the Great Lakes	U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan (Ohio)	Referred to Water, Power and Oceans Subcommittee
H.R. 1990 (Protecting Our Great Lakes Act)	Prohibit discharges of dredged material into the Great Lakes System, with limited exceptions	U.S. Rep. Robert Latta (Ohio)	Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
H.R. 2346	Reauthorize funding for the North American Wetlands Conservation Act	U.S. Rep. Robert Wittman (Virginia)	Referred to Subcommittee on Federal Lands
H.R. 2556	Repeal use of federal funds for beach monitoring and notification of water-quality problems	U.S. Rep. Tim Salmon (Arizona)	Referred to Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee

Bill Number	Description	Primary sponsor/author	Status
H.R. 2809/S. 1586 (Great Lakes Protection Act)	Ban sewage dumping in Great Lakes by 2035; increase fines from \$37,500 a day per violation to \$100,000	U.S. Rep. Robert Dold (Illinois) and U.S. Sen. Mark Kirk (Illinois)	Referred to respective committees
H.R. 3483 and S. 2026 (Stop Nuclear Waste by Our Lakes Act)	Foster bilateral engagement and scientific analysis of storing nuclear waste in permanent repositories in Great Lakes basin	U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee (Michigan)	Referred to respective committees
H.R. 3720 (Water Advanced Technologies for Efficient Resource Use Act)	Establish a WaterSense program to promote water efficient products, buildings and landscapes	U.S. Rep. Matt Cartright	Referred to Subcommittee on Readiness
H.R. 4088 and S. 1736	Provide for investment tax credit related to production of electricity from offshore wind, including facilities located in the Great Lakes	U.S. Rep. Bill Pascrell	Referred to respective committees
H.R. 4136 (Beach Act)	Provide states with grants to test water quality and notify the public when conditions are unsafe	U.S. Rep. Frank Pallone (New Jersey)	Funding included (\$9.5 million) in omnibus spending bill
H.R. 4414 and S. 2466 (Improving Notification for Clean and Safe Drinking Water Act)	Authorize EPA to notify public if a state agency and public water system are not taking action to address a public health risk associated with drinking water requirements	U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee (Michigan) and U.S. Sen. Gary Peters (Michigan)	Referred to respective committees
H.R. 4429 and S. 2276 (SAFE PIPES Act)	Ensure safety of America’s pipeline network, including designating Great Lakes as “high consequence area” (this would require higher standards for pipes in Great Lakes)	U.S. Rep. Stephen Knight (California) and U.S. Sen. Deb Fischer (Nebraska)	S. 2276 signed into law
H.R. 4438 (Drinking Water Contamination Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act)	Make emergency supplemental appropriations to assist Michigan and its residents impacted by contaminated water crisis	U.S. Rep. Candice Miller (Michigan)	Referred to committees
H.R. 4468 (Water Infrastructure Trust Fund Act)	Establish a trust fund to protection of and access to clean water and drinking water systems	U.S. Rep. Earl Blumenauer (Oregon)	Referred to Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee
H.R. 4470 (Safe Drinking Water Improved Act Improved Compliance Act)	Strengthen requirements for EPA to notify public when concentrations of lead in drinking water exceed actionable levels	U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee (Michigan)	Passed by House
H.R. 4595 and S. 2569 (Great Lakes Fishery Research Authorization Act)	Authorize U.S. Geological Survey to conduct monitoring, assessment, science and research in support of fisheries within Great Lakes Basin	U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley (Illinois) and U.S. Sen. Gary Peters (Michigan)	Referred to respective committees
H.R. 4648 (Green Stormwater Infrastructure Act)	Provide grants to states for investments in “green” stormwater infrastructure projects that protect or restore water quality	U.S. Rep. Derek Kilmer (Washington)	Referred to Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee

Bill Number	Description	Primary sponsor/author	Status
H.R. 4797 (GET THE LEAD OUT Act)	Provide grants to eligible entities to reduce lead in drinking water	U.S. Rep Tammy Duckworth (Illinois)	Referred to Energy and Commerce Committee
H.R. 4806 and S. 2587 (CLEAR Act)	Require EPA to promulgate national primary drinking water regulations regarding lead and copper	U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley (Illinois) and U.S. Sen. Benjamin Cardin	Referred to respective committees
H.R. 4937 (PIPES Act)	Enhance pipeline safety; designate Great Lakes as “high consequence area”	U.S. Rep. Jeff Denham (California)	Reported by Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
H.R. 5013 (Safe Water and Nutrition Access Act)	Provide assistance to communities for emergency improvement of water systems	U.S. Rep. John Moolenaar (Michigan)	Referred to Agriculture Committee
H.R. 5050 (Pipeline Safety Act)	Provide enhanced safety in pipeline transportation; classify Great Lakes as “unusually sensitive area”	U.S. Rep. Fred Upton	Reported by Energy and Commerce Committee
H.R. 5078 (Great Lakes Pipeline Safety Act)	Require secretary of transportation to study economic, environmental risks to Great Lakes of spills or leaks of oil	U.S. Rep. Candice Miller (Michigan)	Referred to Energy and Power Subcommittee
H.R. 5277	Establish a working waterfronts grant program	U.S. Rep. Chellie Pingree (Maine)	Referred to Water, Power and Oceans Subcommittee
H.R. 5303 (Water Resources Development Act)	Authorize Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for five years (\$300 million a year); set aside 10 percent of Army Corps priority projects for port/harbor infrastructure for Great Lakes navigation system, fund drinking water infrastructure improvements in Flint; fund various projects related to flood control, water supply, harbors, etc.	U.S. Rep. Bill Shuster (Pennsylvania)	Passed by House
H.R. 5313 (Water Affordability, Transparency, Equity and Reliability Act)	Establish a trust fund to provide for adequate funding for water and sewer infrastructure	U.S. Rep. John Conyers (Michigan)	Referred to Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee
H.R. 5334 (Stamp Out Invasive Species Act)	Issue a postal stamp with net proceeds going to programs that combat invasive species	U.S. Rep. Elise Stefanik	Referred to Conservation and Forestry Subcommittee
H.R. 5417 and S. 2729 (Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Reform Act)	Require full spending of Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund	U.S. Rep. David Reichert (Washington)	Referred to Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment
H.R. 5538 (Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act)	Fund Great Lakes Restoration Initiative at \$300 million; \$1.087 billion for Drinking Water Revolving Fund; ; \$1 billion for Clean Water State Revolving Fund; prohibit federal funds from being used by states to break strict guidelines laid out in Great Compact; among other provision	U.S. Rep. Ken Calvert of California	Passed by House

Bill Number	Description	Primary sponsor/author	Status
H.R. 5673 (Drinking Water Disaster Act)	authorize president to provide major disaster assistance for contamination of drinking water from public water systems	U.S. Rep. Daniel Kildee	Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
H.R. 5765 (Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Act)	Reauthorize act that funds restoration, conservation of fish, wildlife and their habitat (at reduced level, \$6 million from \$14 million)	U.S. Rep. Debbie Dingell (Michigan)	Referred to Federal Lands Subcommittee
H.R. 5833 (Get Lead Out of Schools Act)	Improve testing and monitoring of lead in schools, help districts remove lead pipes	U.S. Rep. Tammy Duckworth (Illinois)	Referred to Energy and Commerce Committee
H.R. 5870 (Federal Partnership for Clean Water Land Acquisition Act)	Establish an EPA grant program to facilitate land acquisitions in order to improve water quality	U.S. Rep. Patrick Murphy (Florida)	Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
H.R. 5886	Provide assistance to schools replace drinking water fountains that may contain lead	U.S. Rep Bobby Rush (Illinois)	Referred to Energy and Commerce Committee
H.R. 6058 (Offshore WIND Act)	Provide for an investment tax credit related to the production of electricity from offshore wind	U.S. Rep. Jim Langevin (Rhode Island)	Referred to Ways and Means Committee
H.R. 6116 (Safe Drinking Water Amendments Act)	Allow EPA to set national drinking water standards; provide grants to replace lead service lines and to improve resiliency of local water systems	U.S. Rep. Frank Pallone (New Jersey)	Referred to Energy and Commerce Committee
H.R. 6121 (Climate Resiliency, Security and Source Water Protection Act)	Amend Safe Drinking Water Act with respect to climate resiliency, security and source water protection planning	U.S. Rep. Lois Capps (California)	Referred to Energy and Commerce Committee
H.R. 6125	Amend Safe Drinking Water Act; require EPA to establish enforceable nationwide standard for perfluorinated compounds in drinking water	U.S. Rep. Brendan Boyle (Pennsylvania)	Referred to Energy and Commerce Committee
H.R. 6140	Amend Safe Drinking Water Act; require EPA to establish enforceable nationwide standard for perchlorate	U.S. Rep. Tony Cardenas (California)	Referred to Energy and Commerce Committee
H.R. 6143	Amend Safe Drinking Water Act regarding lead in schools' drinking water and guidance for school officials	U.S. Rep. Marcia Fudge (Ohio)	Referred to Energy and Commerce Committee
H.R. 6148	Amend Safe Drinking Water Act to require EPA to set regulations on microcystin	U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (Ohio)	Referred to Energy and Commerce Committee
H.R. 6154 (Reducing Lead in Drinking Water Act)	Establish grant program to replace lead service lines	U.S. Rep. Jerry McNerney (California)	Referred to Energy and Commerce Committee
H.R. 6182 (Water Quality Improvement Act)	Amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide for an integrated planning and permitting process	U.S. Rep. Bob Gibbs (Ohio)	Referred to Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

Bill Number	Description	Primary sponsor/author	Status
H.R. 6199 (Investing in Testing Act)	Require CDC to study on human health implications of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination in drinking water	U.S. Rep. Sean Maloney (New York)	Referred to Energy and Commerce Committee
H.R. 6201 (Clean Water Healthy Communities Act)	Require EPA to establish criteria for monitoring program for unregulated contaminants for all public water systems	U.S. Rep. Sean Maloney (New York)	Referred to Energy and Commerce Committee
H.R. 6291 (Indiana Dunes National Park Act)	Retitle Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore as Indiana Dunes National Park	U.S. Rep. Pete Visclosky (Indiana)	Referred to Federal Lands Subcommittee
S. 371	Remove a limitation on a prohibition relating to permits for discharges incidental to normal operation of vessels	U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski (Alaska)	Referred to Environment and Public Works Committee
S. 373 /H.R. 980 (Vessel Incidental Discharge Act)	Require U.S. Coast Guard to establish and implement uniform national standards for regulation of vessel discharges, including ballast water; make these standards the exclusive federal regulation of discharges (no rules/regulations from EPA, for example); restrict states from having their own regulations on vessel discharges	U.S. Sen. Marco Rubio (Florida) and U.S. Rep. Duncan Hunter (California)	S. 373 placed on Senate Legislative Calendar (reported out of committee)
S. 462 (Safe and Secure Drinking Water Protection Act)	Direct EPA to publish a health advisory and submit reports on what level of microcystin in drinking water is expected to be safe for human consumption	U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (Ohio)	Referred to Environment and Public Works Committee
S. 504 (Great Lakes Ecological and Economic Protection Act)	Formally authorize Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and other Great Lakes initiatives (funded at \$475 million a year through FY 2020)	U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin (Wisconsin)	Referred to Committee on Environment and Public Works
S. 621 (Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act)	Formally authorize Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, reauthorize Great Lakes Fish & Wildlife Restoration Act, authorize position of harmful algal bloom coordinator, funding for Great Lakes navigation system and water infrastructure, among other provisions	U.S. Sen. John Cornyn (Texas)	Signed into law
S. 886 (Smart Energy and Water Efficiency Act)	Provide for a “smart” energy and water efficiency pilot program	U.S. Sen. Tom Udall (New Mexico)	Referred to Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
S. 896 (Innovative Stormwater Infrastructure Act)	Establish centers of excellence for innovative stormwater control infrastructure	U.S. Sen. Tom Udall (New Mexico)	Referred to Environment and Public Works Committee
S. 1424 (Microbead-Free Waters Act)	Prohibit the sale or distribution of cosmetics containing synthetic plastic microbeads	U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (New York)	Referred to Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee

Bill Number	Description	Primary sponsor/author	Status
S. 1485 (Water Efficiency Improvement Act)	Provide for the advancement of energy-water efficiency research, development, and deployment activities	U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin (Wisconsin)	Referred to Energy and Natural Resources Committee
S. 1886 (Coordinated Ocean Monitoring and Research Act)	Establish and sustain a national integrated System of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes observing systems	U.S. Sen. Roger Wicker (Mississippi)	Passed by Senate
S. 1935 (Waterfront Community and Resiliency Act)	Support community efforts to attract water-dependent industries and investments that leverage water sustainably, revitalizing neighborhoods, and enhancing recreation and tourism	U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin (Wisconsin)	Passed by Senate
S. 1956 (Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Assessment Act)	Require assessment of cultural and historic resources in waters of Great Lakes	U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow (Michigan)	Referred to Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
S. 2025 (National Oceans and Coastal Security Act)	Promote protection, restoration of U.S. coastal ecosystems, including Great Lakes'	U.S. Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (Rhode Island)	Referred to Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee
S. 2358 (Clean Water Compliance and Affordability Act)	Carry out pilot program for municipalities that implement plans to meet wastewater and stormwater obligations under Federal Water Pollution Control Act	U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (Ohio)	Referred to Environment and Public Works Committee
S. 2532 and S. 2583	Authorize appropriations for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund	U.S. Sen. Benjamin Cardin (Maryland)	Referred to Environment and Public Works Committee
S. 2535	Provide deadlines for corrosion control treatment steps for lead and copper in drinking water	U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (Ohio)	Referred to Environment and Public Works Committee
S. 2579 (Drinking Water Safety and Infrastructure Act)	Provide assistance to states and local governments to address lead and other contaminants in drinking water, including repair and replacement of infrastructure	U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow (Michigan)	Referred to Energy and Natural Resources Committee
S. 2673 (Water Technology Acceleration Act)	Accelerate development of innovative water technologies	U.S. Sen. Tammy Baldwin (Wisconsin)	Referred to Environment and Public Works Committee
S. 2674 (Lead in Drinking Water Disaster Act)	Provide major disaster assistance for lead contamination of drinking water from public water systems	U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer (California)	Referred to Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee)
S. 2821 (True LEADership Act)	Improve drinking water quality and reduce lead exposure in homes	U.S. Sen. Benjamin Cardin (Maryland)	Referred to Finance Committee

Bill Number	Description	Primary sponsor/author	Status
S. 2848 (Water Resources Development Act)	Authorize Great Lakes Restoration Initiative for five years (\$300 million a year); fund drinking water infrastructure improvements in Flint; fund various projects related to flood control, water supply, harbors, etc.	U.S. Sen. James Inhofe (Oklahoma)	Passed by Senate
S. 2949 (Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act)	Amend and reauthorize the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act; provide assistance to Great Lakes fish and wildlife agencies to encourage cooperative conservation, restoration and management of fish and wildlife resources and their habitats	U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar	Referred Environment and Public Works Committee
S. 3036 (Offshore WIND Act)	Expand tax credit for investment in energy property to include a qualified offshore wind property, including on Great Lakes	U.S. Sen. Edward Markey (Massachusetts)	Referred to Finance Committee
S. 3278 (Invasive Fish and Wildlife Prevention Act)	Give U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service greater authority to regulate nonnative species and prohibit them from being imported or sold	U.S. Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (New York)	Introduced in Senate
S. 3319	Require EPA to appoint a harmful algal bloom coordinator	U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (Ohio)	Referred to Environment and Public Works Committee
H.J. Res. 59 and S.J. Res. 22	Congressional disapproval of Army Corps/EPA rule related to definition of "waters of the United States" under Clean Water Act	U.S. Rep. Adrian Smith (Nebraska)	S.J. Res 22 vetoed by president
H. Res. 142	Prioritize assessment of quality and quantity of surface water and groundwater resources; produce a national water census	U.S. Rep. Matt Cartwright (Pennsylvania)	Referred to Water, Power and Oceans Subcommittee
H. Res. 194/S. Res. 134	Express sense of U.S. Congress that the president and secretary of State should ensure that Canada does not permanently store nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin	U.S. Rep. Dan Kildee (Michigan) and U.S. Sen. Debbie Stabenow (Michigan)	Introduced in respective chambers
H. Res. 754	Commitment of U.S. House to combat nationwide problem of invasive species	U.S. Rep. Elise Stefanik (New York)	Referred to Biotechnology, Horticulture and Research Committee