



H.R. 2538 (Calvert, R-CA) REBUILD Act

Communications and Legislation Committee

Item 8-5

April 10, 2012

Summary of H.R. 2538

- Reducing Environmental Barriers to Unified Infrastructure and Land Development (REBUILD) Act of 2011
- Allows delegation of NEPA compliance from federal to state agencies via an MOU
- Expands voluntary 2005 pilot program that started in the transportation sector
 - Resulted in 17-month average reduction in Caltrans projects
- Simplifies the NEPA process

Proposed amendments to H.R. 2538

- Existing bill applies only to states and not Metropolitan or other public agencies
 - Recommend seeking an amendment to broaden the scope to other public agencies and special districts
- Existing bill does not address competing NEPA/CEQA deadlines
 - Recommend seeking an amendment to authorize federal agencies to specify applicable deadlines

Status of H.R. 2538

- Introduced July 14, 2011
- Referred to House Committee on Natural Resources
- No hearing or other actions scheduled at this time
- Broad bipartisan support

Board Options

- Option #1
 - Adopt the CEQA determination and support and seek amendments to H.R. 2538
- Option #2
 - Take no position on H.R. 2538

Staff Recommendation

- Option #1