

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1525

To prohibit Federal officials and employees from entering into settlements that provide for payment of attorney’s fees by the Federal Government in certain environmental law cases.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 13, 2017

Mr. SMITH of Missouri (for himself, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. BRAT, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, and Mr. BOST) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Natural Resources, and Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To prohibit Federal officials and employees from entering into settlements that provide for payment of attorney’s fees by the Federal Government in certain environmental law cases.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Stop Taxpayer Funded
5 Settlements Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON SETTLEMENTS PROVIDING FOR**
2 **PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY'S FEES BY THE FED-**
3 **ERAL GOVERNMENT IN CERTAIN ENVIRON-**
4 **MENTAL LAW CASES.**

5 (a) PROHIBITION.—No Federal official or Federal
6 employee may enter into a settlement in any environ-
7 mental law case in which the Federal Government is a
8 party if the settlement provides for payment of attorney's
9 fees by the Federal Government.

10 (b) DEFINITION.—In this Act, the term the “environ-
11 mental law case” means a case arising under—

12 (1) the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.);

13 (2) the Federal Water Pollution Control Act

14 (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.); or

15 (3) the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16

16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.).

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