

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 9960

To require the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission to obtain input from stakeholders when drafting certain minutes relating to the Rio Grande, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 11, 2024

Ms. DE LA CRUZ (for herself, Mr. ARRINGTON, and Ms. GRANGER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To require the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission to obtain input from stakeholders when drafting certain minutes relating to the Rio Grande, and for other purposes.

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 “Water Delivery Trans-  
5 parency Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. STAKEHOLDER INPUT FOR DRAFTING OF CERTAIN**  
2 **IBWC MINUTES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—In drafting any minute relating  
4 to the covered treaty, the Commission shall obtain input  
5 from stakeholders, including agricultural producers, gov-  
6 ernment entities, and irrigation districts in Texas, relating  
7 to such minute.

8 (b) STAKEHOLDER INPUT.—

9 (1) PUBLIC FORUMS.—

10 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Commission  
11 shall—

12 (i) hold at least 5 public forums with  
13 the stakeholders described in subsection  
14 (a) during the input period; and

15 (ii) ensure that at least 3 of such fo-  
16 rums are held in the Rio Grande Valley of  
17 Texas.

18 (B) SCHEDULE.—At the onset of drafting  
19 a minute described in subsection (a), the Com-  
20 mission shall set a schedule for the public fo-  
21 rums required under subparagraph (A).

22 (C) PUBLICATION.—Not later than 30  
23 days before holding the first forum with stake-  
24 holders required under subparagraph (A), the  
25 Commission shall make the schedule set pursu-  
26 ant to subparagraph (B) publicly available.

1           (2) ONLINE SUBMISSION PORTAL.—The Com-  
2 mission shall establish, and make publicly available,  
3 an online submission portal through which stake-  
4 holders may submit input relating to a minute de-  
5 scribed in subsection (a) during the input period.

6           (c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date  
7 on which the Commission holds the first forum pursuant  
8 to subsection (b)(1), the Commission shall make publicly  
9 available a report that includes—

10           (1) a summary of all input received from stake-  
11 holders during the input period; and

12           (2) an executive summary describing how the  
13 Commission interprets and plans to use such input  
14 when drafting a minute described in subsection (a).

15           (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

16           (1) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”  
17 means the United States Section of the Inter-  
18 national Boundary and Water Commission, United  
19 States and Mexico.

20           (2) COVERED TREATY.—The term “covered  
21 treaty” means the portion of the Treaty on Utiliza-  
22 tion of Waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers  
23 and of the Rio Grande, signed at Washington Feb-  
24 ruary 3, 1944, that relates to the shared waters of  
25 the Rio Grande.

1           (3) INPUT PERIOD.—The term “input period”  
2           means the period of time beginning on the date on  
3           which the Commission holds the first forum pursu-  
4           ant to subsection (b)(1) and ending 60 days after  
5           such date.

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