



LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

May 11, 2015

United States House
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Oppose H.R. 1732, the so-called Regulatory Integrity Protection Act of 2015

Dear Representative:

The League of Conservation Voters (LCV) works to turn environmental values into national priorities. Each year, LCV publishes the *National Environmental Scorecard*, which details the voting records of members of Congress on environmental legislation. The *Scorecard* is distributed to LCV members, concerned voters nationwide, and the media.

LCV urges you to vote NO on H.R. 1732, the so-called Regulatory Integrity Protection Act of 2015, which attempts to undermine the Environmental Protection Agency's and Army Corps of Engineers' Clean Water Rule that will protect our small streams and wetlands from pollution. This legislation would stop this important rulemaking process in its tracks, withdrawing the proposed rule and delaying these long-overdue protections by forcing the agencies to unnecessarily repeat analyses and outreach they have already done.

Since two confusing Supreme Court decisions over a decade ago, stakeholders on all sides of the issue have asked the EPA and Army Corps to develop a rule to provide clarity and certainty on the waters covered under the Clean Water Act. Without these critical protections, the millions of acres of wetlands and thousands of miles of streams that contribute to the drinking water of one in three Americans have been left vulnerable to toxic dumping and destruction. Although the agencies engaged in an extensive and transparent process to develop the Clean Water Rule, H.R. 1732 would force the agencies to scrap this rule, go back to redo the same consultations and analyses that they've already done, and then re-propose another rule.

This continued delay and consultation will add nothing to the debate—the Clean Water Rule is based on sound-science, informed by exhaustive stakeholder outreach, and supported by an overwhelming number of Americans who have called on the agencies to protect their water. H.R. 1732 is nothing more than a last-ditch effort to block critical Clean Water Act protections for our small streams and wetlands.

We urge you to REJECT H.R. 1732, which blocks crucial safeguards for our nation's waterways. For the one in three Americans whose drinking water will be protected by the Clean Water Rule, the wait has been long enough. We will strongly consider including votes on this bill in the 2015 Scorecard.

Sincerely,

Gene Karpinski
President