



SJM19-001

SHORT TITLE: Memorial for Arkansas Valley Conduit

LONG TITLE: MEMORIALIZING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO FULFILL THE COMMITMENT OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDEFUNDING FOR THE ARKANSAS VALLEY CONDUIT PROJECT.

SPONSORS: Senator Crowder/Representative Esgar (Water Resources Review Committee bill)

COMMITTEES: Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee

PURPOSE OF THE BILL: To encourage Congress to act in funding the conduit project to safe drinking water to residents of the Arkansas Basin

PROPONENTS: Bill sponsors and their constituents in Arkansas Valley

POTENTIAL STAKEHOLDERS: Residents of Arkansas Valley

BACKGROUND: The cities of the Lower Arkansas Valley in Colorado have awaited the construction of the AVC for decades. The AVC was authorized by Congress as part of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project in 1962. It never was built largely because of the inability of participants to repay construction costs. In 2009, Congress amended the original Fry-Ark legislation. The amendment featured a cost-sharing plan with 65 percent federal and 35 percent local funding. The locally funded portion will be repaid by the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District (District) to the federal government over a period of 50 years (history courtesy SE Colorado Water Conservancy District) More info <https://www.secwcd.org/content/arkansas-valley-conduit>

Is this bill necessary this year? Proponents believe time is of the essence

How does the bill change current law? No change

Does the bill affect the prior appropriations system? No

How is the bill implemented? Congress must fund the project in order to implement

Fiscal Impact: No fiscal impact statement