

Every Drop Counts Act ([H.R.338](#))

On January 13, 2025, Congressman Jim Costa (D-CA-21) and Congressman David Valadao (R-CA-22) introduced H.R. 338, the Every Drop Counts Act. The bill is cosponsored by Congressman Russ Fulcher (R-ID-1), Congressman Adam Gray (D-CA-13), and Congressman Josh Harder (D-CA-9)

This legislation would amend section 40903(b)(1) the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) (P.L.117-58) to expand eligibility criteria to apply for the Bureau of Reclamation's (Reclamation) Small Water Storage and Groundwater Storage Program.

Reclamation's Small Water Storage and Groundwater Storage Program was authorized in 2021 as part of the IIJA. The program is authorized to allocate \$100 million in federal funds for projects with water storage capacity between 200 and 30,000 acre-feet, conveyance infrastructure to or from small capacity projects is also eligible for funding.

Federal cost share cannot exceed the lesser of 25 percent of project cost or \$30 million dollars.

H.R. 338 would expand eligibility criteria to also include projects that have an average annual project life capacity between 200 and 150,000 acre-feet. The bill would also extend the authorization of the small water storage and groundwater storage program for an additional five years (it is currently set to expire in 2026).

ACWA Staff Recommendation:

ACWA staff recommends support for this legislation.