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November 2, 2015

United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator:

The National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) strongly supports S. 1140, The Federal Water Quality Protection Act, and urges you to support the measure when it comes to the Senate floor this week.

This legislation would require the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) to withdraw the flawed “waters of the U.S.” (WOTUS) rule and develop a new proposed rule after engaging in meaningful stakeholder consultation. NAR is deeply concerned that this controversial rule will impede economic development and hurt property rights in communities across the country.

There is significant disagreement between the federal agencies, the states, local governments, and the regulated community about the scope and effect of the rulemaking. The confusion is so significant that the 6<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals has imposed an unprecedented temporary nationwide stay on implementation of the rule while the court gathers additional information on the rule’s legality and impacts.

It is important for Congress to set parameters for further agency action on a WOTUS rule so that the final result reflects congressional intent. By requiring EPA and the Corps to withdraw the proposed rule, S. 1140 initiates a process that will further protect our nation’s environmental assets, assure our ability to engage in robust economic activity, and earn broad support from state and local officials and the regulated community.

NAR supports the Federal Water Quality Protection Act because it offers an approach to a revised “waters of the U.S.” rule that will improve the quality of the nation’s navigable waters. Accordingly, NAR urges your support for S. 1140 Federal Water Quality Protection Act and opposition to any amendments that would weaken the bill when it is considered by the full Senate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Polychron'.

Chris Polychron  
2015 President, National Association of REALTORS®



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