

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7818

To exempt certain structures from removal from Army Corps of Engineers property on Table Rock Lake, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 26, 2024

Mr. BURLISON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To exempt certain structures from removal from Army Corps of Engineers property on Table Rock Lake, 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 “Table Rock Lake Prop-
5 erty Protection Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. TABLE ROCK LAKE ENCROACHMENT.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

8 (1) suspend any activities to require eligible
9 property owners to remove eligible structures; and

1 (2) offer to an eligible property owner a convey-
2 ance or release that—

3 (A) for an eligible structure located on fee
4 land, conveys by quitclaim deed the minimum
5 land required to maintain the eligible structure,
6 reserving the right to flood the land, if applica-
7 ble;

8 (B) for an eligible structure located on
9 land subject to a flowage easement, releases by
10 quitclaim deed the easement prohibition; and

11 (C) provides that—

12 (i) the eligible structure shall not be
13 extended further onto fee land or land sub-
14 ject to the flowage easement;

15 (ii) additional structures for human
16 habitation shall not be placed on fee land
17 or land subject to the flowage easement;

18 (iii) the United States shall not be lia-
19 ble or responsible for damage to the eligi-
20 ble structure caused by the operation of
21 the Lake; and

22 (iv) no claim to compensation shall ac-
23 crue from the exercise of any flowage ease-
24 ment right.

25 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) EASEMENT PROHIBITION.—The term “ease-
2 ment prohibition” means the rights acquired by the
3 United States, in a flowage easement, to prohibit
4 structures for human habitation on land subject to
5 the easement.

6 (2) ELIGIBLE PROPERTY OWNER.—The term
7 “eligible property owner” means a person who owns
8 an eligible structure.

9 (3) ELIGIBLE STRUCTURE.—The term “eligible
10 structure” means a structure for human habitation,
11 including a septic system—

12 (A) that is located on fee land or land sub-
13 ject to the flowage easement; and

14 (B) for which a license for right-of-way has
15 been provided by the Secretary and is in effect
16 on the date of enactment of this Act.

17 (4) FEE LAND.—The term “fee land” means
18 the land acquired in fee title by the United States
19 for the Lake.

20 (5) FLOWAGE EASEMENT.—The term “flowage
21 easement” means an interest in land acquired by the
22 United States that includes the right to flood land
23 surrounding the Lake.

24 (6) LAKE.—The term “Lake” means the Table
25 Rock Lake project of the Corps of Engineers, lo-

1 cated in Missouri and Arkansas, authorized as one
2 of the multiple-purpose reservoir projects in the
3 White River Basin by section 4 of the Act of June
4 28, 1938 (52 Stat. 1218).

5 (7) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
6 the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief
7 of Engineers.

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