

**To:** Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]  
**From:** POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard  
**Sent:** Tue 7/18/2017 9:53:13 PM  
**Subject:** House approves ozone delay bill

By Alex Guillén

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The House has passed legislation that would delay implementation of the 2015 ozone standard and lengthen the review cycle for EPA to review key air quality standards by a vote of 229-199.

Rep. Pete Olson's Ozone Standards Implementation Act, H.R. 806 (115), would give states until 2026 to tell EPA which areas they believe meet the standard.

More broadly, the bill would also extend the National Ambient Air Quality Standards review cycle from five years to 10 years. Many Republicans and industry groups argue the five-year timeline means companies must contend with frequently updated standards for ozone and other pollutants, but environmentalists and Democrats note that EPA already routinely misses its review deadlines.

The bill would also direct EPA to study how atmospheric ozone forms and describe how foreign sources contribute to U.S. pollution levels.

It is similar to legislation that was voted out of the House last year on a largely party-line vote but did not move forward in the Senate.

EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt has ordered a review of the 2015 rule, which lowered the standard to 70 parts per billion amid major opposition from industry. He has also announced plans to delay by one year the next administrative step in implementing the rule, designating which areas do not meet the limits, which was supposed to happen this fall. That delay is being challenged in court by environmentalists.

**WHAT'S NEXT:** Senate Republicans have pushed their own version of this bill, but it is unlikely to get the 60 votes needed to overcome a Democratic filibuster in that chamber.

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