

Nebraska Farm Bureau is opposing new federal legislation that would subject non-navigable bodies of water to the requirements of the Clean Water Act.

Man-made lakes and ponds, road ditches and farm fields that are wet only part of the year would be regulated the same as navigable waters if lawmakers adopt the "America's Commitment to Clean Water Act," Jordan Dux, Farm Bureau director of national affairs, said May 7.

H.R. 5088 and S. 787 would change "navigable waters" to simply "waters of the U.S.," in the definition of what is regulated by the Clean Water Act, Dux said.

The change would allow EPA to require permits and regulate anything that could affect a water body.

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