

Mr. Speaker, tomorrow the House will take up the so-called “Clean Water Cooperative Federalism Act”, a bill that would be more aptly named the “Dirty Water Act”.

Rarely does this body so blatantly attempt to deceive and misinform than in the case of a bill that in neither spirit nor practice seeks cleaner water.

This legislation would render the EPA toothless to enforce the Clean Water Act, giving polluters more leeway to break from clean water standards.

And make it more difficult for the Army Corps of Engineers to receive constructive advice from environmental experts during the permit process.

Additionally, the bill would make it impossible for the EPA to adjust clean water standards accordingly if new science emerges,

An appropriately anti-science provision for those who have promoted a head-in-the-sand attitude toward addressing our environmental problems.

We cannot stand by quietly during this attempt to lower water quality standards under the Orwellian mantle of “clean water”, and I hope this body does not fall for the “Dirty Water Act”.