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## [H.R. 3588, Community Fire Safety Act of 2013](#)

### FLOOR SITUATION

On Monday, December 2, 2013, the House will consider [H.R. 3588](#), the *Community Fire Safety Act of 2013*, under a suspension of the rules. The bill was introduced on November 21, 2013 by Rep. Bill Johnson (R-OH) and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

### SUMMARY

H.R. 3588 amends the Safe Drinking Water Act to include fire hydrants in the list of items that are exempted from the prohibition on lead plumbing supplies, equipment, and fixtures. Moreover, this legislation requires the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to: (1) consult with and seek the advice of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council on potential changes to the regulations pertaining to lead under the Safe Drinking Water Act; and (2) request the Council to consider sources of lead throughout drinking water distribution systems, including through components used to re-route drinking water during distribution system repairs.

### BACKGROUND

On October 22, 2013, the EPA determined that fire hydrants may not be included under the exemption from the ban on the use of plumbing supplies, equipment, and fixtures that contain lead. After January 4, 2014, current law could ban the installation of fire hydrants containing lead, which would leave cities and towns unable to replace them in the event of an emergency.<sup>1</sup> “The bill recognizes that hydrants are not intended to be a major source of drinking water and addresses this public safety risk by ensuring that legal hydrants will be readily available for installation and replacement.”<sup>2</sup>

### COST

A formal CBO score is currently unavailable. Preliminary CBO estimates project this legislation would have no cost.

### STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information contact the GOP Conference at 5-5107.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://energycommerce.house.gov/press-release/hydrants>

<sup>2</sup> [Id.](#)