

# House Democrats float new Calif. water bill

By Michael Doyle, McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON – California water bills continue to fill the Capitol Hill hopper, and now one comes with a new twist.

It's crowd-sourcing drought solutions, in a long-shot bid to break a congressional stalemate.

On Wednesday, House Democrats from Northern California who have complained about being shut out of drought negotiations took matters into their own hands. They unveiled a sprawling proposal and, in a pointed gesture, opened it for public suggestions before it's formally introduced.

"This is what a good serious congressional response to the drought looks like," Rep. Jared Huffman, D-Calif., said in an interview, stressing a need to "do no harm" and to avoid reigniting "the water wars."

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