



June 18, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Environment and Public Works Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tom Carper
Ranking Member
Environment and Public Works Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

On behalf of the nation's drinking water utilities, we thank you for undertaking a bipartisan approach to crafting substitute amendment to S. 1507 that is intended to address per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in drinking water. While we understand that this substitute will be marked up in committee tomorrow, our organizations look forward to continuing to work with you to refine this proposal.

As the public has become more aware of the prevalence of PFAS throughout the environment Congress, EPA, and the water utility community have initiated efforts to better understand the human health risks associated with PFAS exposure through drinking water. Your amendment builds on these efforts by authorizing new funding to help communities address PFAS and creating unique regulatory processes for EPA to follow under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) when considering chemicals in the PFAS family. We applaud your bipartisan efforts to work toward a solution.

Ultimately our organizations believe the consistent, science-based regulatory process of SDWA is the best approach for EPA's consideration and development of a drinking water regulation for any contaminant. We believe that any departure from this established process for a particular contaminant or family of contaminants should be minimized and designed in such a way as to avoid placing excessive burdens on EPA while maintaining public transparency.

Our organizations are continuing our review of the substitute amendment to S. 1507 and are eager to follow the progress of efforts to remove PFAS from the environment. We hope to have the opportunity to offer constructive suggestions for the proposal as it moves forward.

Thank you again for your work on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of G. Tracy Meehan, III in blue ink.

G. Tracy Meehan, III
Executive Director of Government Affairs
American Water Works Association

Handwritten signature of Diane VanDe Hei in blue ink.

Diane VanDe Hei
Chief Executive Officer
Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies

CC: Environment and Public Works Committee members