



June 17, 2026

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Chair
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Capito and Ranking Member Whitehouse:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, a coalition of public water and wastewater utilities serving communities across the nation, we write to express strong support for S. 2388, the *Water Infrastructure Modernization Act of 2025*, introduced by Senators Ruben Gallego (D-AZ) and John Curtis (R-UT). We urge the Committee to include this bipartisan legislation in any water infrastructure package it advances this Congress.

Water and wastewater agencies across the country manage infrastructure under increasing operational strain. This strain includes antiquated systems, drought, extreme weather, growing service demand, and tightening water quality requirements. Intelligent water technologies and digitalization offer practical tools to address these pressures. Intelligent systems that detect leaks, monitor pipe integrity, reduce non-revenue water loss, and optimize treatment operations can

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extend asset life, reduce operating costs, and increase utility efficiency. Investment in intelligent technologies provides improved service and affordability of such services. At the same time, the small investment provided by S. 2388 will leverage federal investments by stretching the annual appropriations provided to the states and local communities. The primary obstacle to broader adoption is upfront capital. Many small and mid-size utilities cannot absorb those costs without federal assistance.

S. 2388 addresses this obstacle directly. The bill, relying on amending existing law, would establish a \$50 million competitive grant program for small, medium and large community water systems to adopt and deploy intelligent water technologies. This includes, but not limited to, tools for water loss identification, pipe integrity assessment, leak detection, and severe weather preparedness, among other benefits. This separate grant program is essential as less than 1% of the \$73 billion awarded between 2020-2025 went toward digital solutions.

As the Committee works to develop a water infrastructure package this Congress, we respectfully urge inclusion of S. 2388. The bill is bipartisan, targeted, and responds to a documented need. Thank you for your leadership to advance bipartisan solutions that address both water quality and affordability needs. We stand ready to provide additional information at the Committee's request.

Sincerely,

American Rivers
American Water Works Association
Association of California Water Agencies
Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies
California Association of Sanitation Agencies
National Association of Clean Water Agencies
National Water Resources Association
Water Environment Federation
WateReuse Association

cc: Senator John Curtis
Senator Ruben Gallego
Members, Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works