



April 29, 2026

Sen. Capito, Chair  
Environment and Public Works  
Committee  
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Sen. Whitehouse, Ranking Member  
Environment and Public Works  
Committee  
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Rep. Guthrie, Chair  
Energy and Commerce Committee  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Rep. Pallone, Ranking Member  
Energy and Commerce Committee  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Rep. Graves, Chair  
Transportation and Infrastructure  
Committee  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Larsen, Ranking Member  
Transportation and Infrastructure  
Committee  
2165 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairs and Ranking Members:

The United States stands at a pivotal moment in determining whether it will sustain and strengthen the systems that support American families, communities, and economic growth—or allow recent progress to stall in the face of mounting challenges.

Across the country, water infrastructure is under strain. Aging systems, rising costs, expanding regulatory demands, emerging contaminants, and the

urgent need to replace lead service lines are placing increasing pressure on states and local communities. These are not distant or abstract concerns—they are immediate challenges facing American households and the communities they live and work in every day.

At its core, this is a question of whether federal policy will remain grounded in the needs of the American people or drift away from them over time.

**Congress now faces a clear choice: to build on the momentum of our most recent investment or allow our infrastructure to fall behind.**

Reauthorization legislation to invest in our nation’s water infrastructure must not represent a step backward.

We urge Congress to establish authorization levels for key federal water infrastructure programs at the levels that authorizing committees deemed necessary on an overwhelmingly bipartisan basis just five short years ago. Congress now has a responsibility to sustain these commitments and ensure they are not diminished.

This is the most direct and responsible path forward—one that aligns federal policy with demonstrated need and ensures that prior commitments are not diminished.

Specifically, we urge Congress to authorize:

<b>Account name</b>	<b>FY26 Base Authorization</b>	<b>FY26 Supplemental Appropriation</b>	<b>Total</b>
Clean Water SRF General Supplemental	\$3.25 billion	\$2.6 billion	\$5.85 billion
Clean Water SRF Emerging Contaminants	-	\$225 million	\$225 million
Drinking Water SRF General Supplemental	\$3.25 billion	\$2.6 billion	\$5.85 billion
Drinking Water SRF Lead Service Line Replacement	-	\$3 billion	\$3 billion
Drinking Water SRF Emerging Contaminants	-	\$800 million	\$800 million

Small, Underserved, and Disadvantaged Community (SUDC) Grant Program	\$140 million	\$1 billion	\$1.14 billion
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Additionally, we urge Congress to **reauthorize the Public Water System Supervision Grant Program at \$450 million<sup>1</sup>**, which provides the core federal funding that enables states to implement the Safe Drinking Water Act. A continued lack of adequate investment could undermine state primacy and shift oversight and enforcement responsibility back to the EPA.

Setting authorization levels at these amounts would provide the certainty necessary for long-term planning and investment. It would strengthen the reliability of essential systems, support affordability for American households, ensure compliance with federal requirements, and reinforce the long-term viability of critical infrastructure that underpins economic growth and community stability.

More broadly, sustaining these investments is essential to maintaining the nation’s long-term strength. Allowing progress to erode would not simply delay projects—it would deepen existing challenges in our communities and increase costs to American families over time.

At this moment, there is also a broader responsibility. When Congress has demonstrated that meaningful progress is possible, it has a responsibility to secure and extend that progress—not allow it to decline. The previous bipartisan investments showed what can be achieved with clear direction and commitment. This reauthorization is an opportunity to carry that work forward.

We appreciate your leadership and stand ready to work with you to ensure that federal water infrastructure programs are reauthorized at levels that meet the nation’s needs.

Sincerely,

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<sup>1</sup> Analysis of State Drinking Water Programs’ Resources and Needs, ASDWA, 2020. <https://www.asdwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/2019-Analysis-of-State-Drinking-Water-Programs-Resources-and-Needs.pdf>

American Council of Engineering Companies

American Public Works Association

American Society of Civil Engineers

Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies

Association of Safe Drinking Water Administrators

Clean Water Construction Coalition

National Association of Counties

Protect Kids from Lead Coalition