

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 29, 2017

The Honorable Ken Calvert  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Interior,  
Environment, and Related Agencies  
B-308 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Betty McCollum  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Interior,  
Environment, and Related Agencies  
1016 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member McCollum:

Our nation's clean and safe water infrastructure faces significant investment needs to maintain existing levels of service, support economic growth, and protect public health and the environment. As you develop the Fiscal Year 2018 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we write to urge strong appropriations for the State Revolving Funds (SRFs) – critical and proven tools for supporting local investments in water infrastructure. Specifically, we request a doubling of the FY16 SRFs, or a total of \$2.8 billion for the Clean Water SRF and \$1.8 billion for the Drinking Water SRF. Funding at these levels will help advance critical projects around the country.

During his 2016 Campaign, the President called for tripling of the SRFs. In support of this goal, for FY18 we urge doubled funding relative to the most recently enacted (FY16) levels. This level of support will help communities address the growing infrastructure gap around the country. Just this month, the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) released its 2017 Infrastructure Report Card. Wastewater received a D+ -- the average grade across all infrastructure types – and Drinking Water received a D. It was noted that over 56 million more people will be connected to wastewater treatment systems within 20 years, underscoring that clean water investments are needed both to maintain existing infrastructure and quality service but also to support continued growth and development around the country.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's most recent reports to Congress indicated that the U.S. has a twenty-year capital improvement need of \$384.2 billion for drinking water and \$271 billion for wastewater infrastructure. Industry estimates are even higher, nearing \$1 trillion. While these numbers are daunting, it is important to recall that these investments support economic growth and have a strong return on investment. Every \$1 invested in water and wastewater infrastructure increases long-term GDP by \$6.35, and each job created in water and wastewater supports 3.68 jobs throughout the economy.

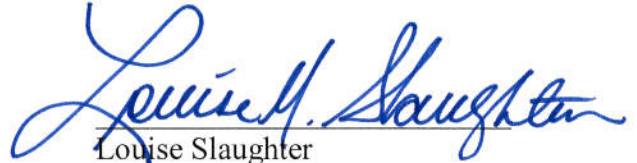
With the majority (over 90 percent) of water infrastructure in the U.S. funded by ratepayers and local communities, the SRFs play an important role in ensuring communities have access to affordable financing.

The SRFs are a longstanding and critical tool in the toolbox for States and local communities to make high priority water infrastructure investments. We urge you to support this doubling for FY18 Appropriations.

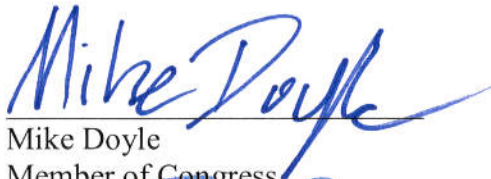
Thank you,



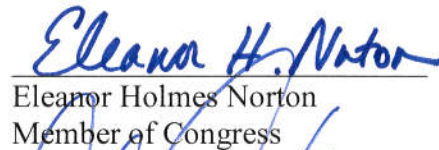
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Member of Congress



Louise Slaughter  
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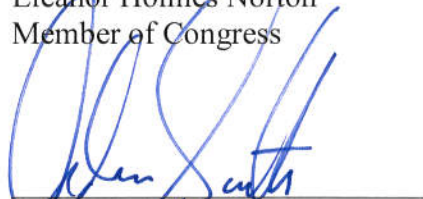
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Eleanor Holmes Norton  
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Scott Peters  
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Adam Smith  
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Don Young  
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Juan Vargas  
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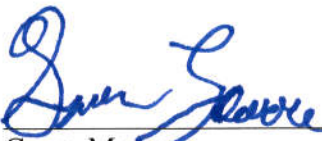
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Bill Keating  
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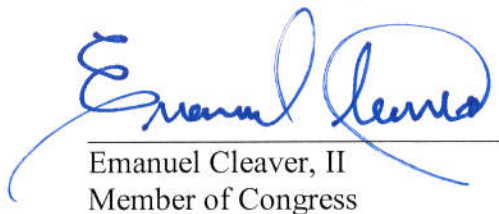
  
Gwen Moore  
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Julia Brownley  
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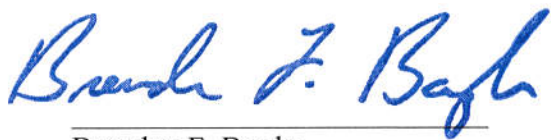
  
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Emanuel Cleaver, II  
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Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan  
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Brendan F. Boyle  
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Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress

  
Judy Chu  
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Jackie Speier  
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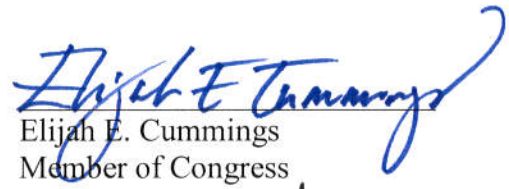
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Sean Patrick Maloney  
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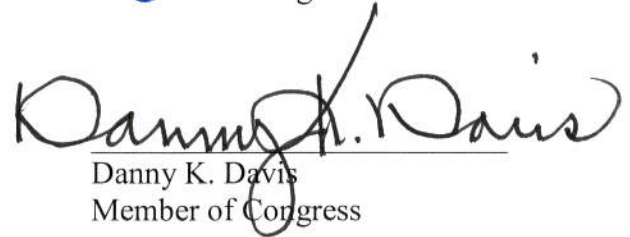
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Jared Huffman  
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Danny K. Davis  
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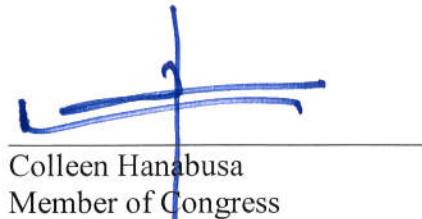
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Darren Soto  
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Colleen Hanabusa  
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Lloyd Doggett  
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Andre Carson  
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Salud Carbajal  
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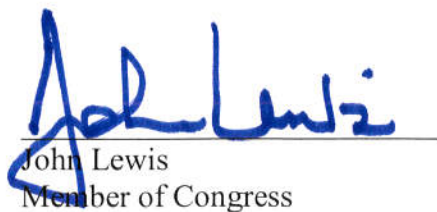
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Brian Mast  
Member of Congress



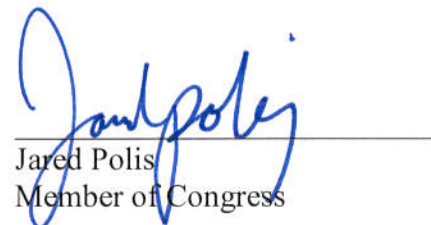
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Cedric Richmond  
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John Lewis  
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Jared Polis  
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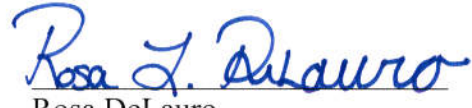
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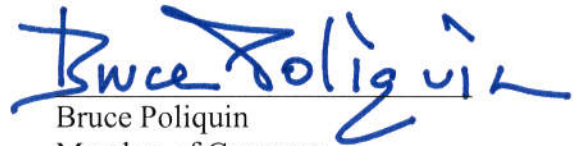
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Bruce Poliquin  
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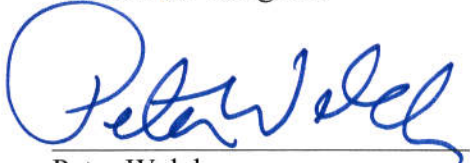
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Jacky Rosen  
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Peter Welch  
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Pramila Jayapal  
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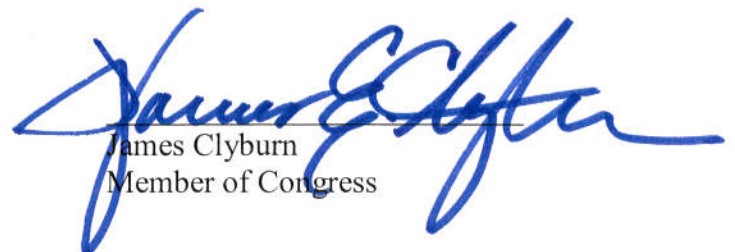
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James Clyburn  
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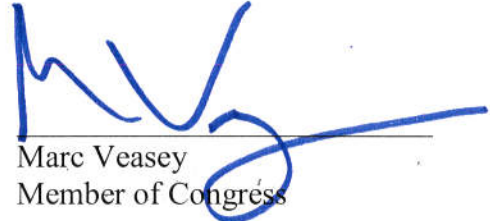
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Denny Heck  
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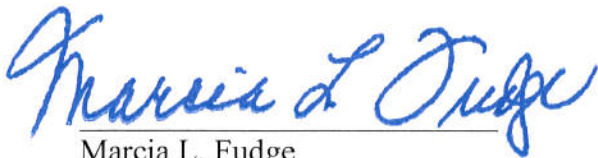
A. Donald McEachin  
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Alma S. Adams  
Member of Congress



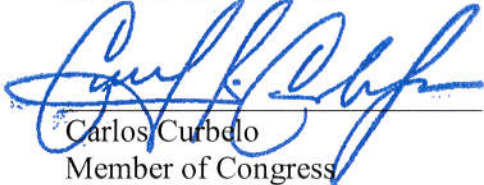
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Tulsi Gabbard  
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