

**Advocates for a Clean Lake Erie \* Alliance for the Great Lakes \* American Littoral Society \* American Rivers \* American Sustainable Business Council \* Anthropocene Alliance \* Black Women's Health Imperative \* Cahaba River Society \* Clean Water Action \* Clean Water Action Minnesota \* Earthjustice \* Endangered Habitats League \* Environment America \* Environmental Defense Fund \* Environmental Law & Policy Center \* For Love of Water (FLOW) \* Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association \* GreenLatinos \* Healthy Gulf \* Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, USA-JPIC \* Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited \* Leadership Team, U.S. Province of the School Sisters of St. Francisisters of St. Francis, United \* League of Conservation Voters \* Milwaukee Riverkeeper \* National Coalition for Legislation on Affordable Water (NCLAWATER) \* National Latino Farmers & Ranchers Trade Association \* National Parks Conservation Association \* National Wildlife Federation \* Natural Resources Defense Council \* Ohio Environmental Council \* Onondaga Audubon \* Religious Coalition for the Great Lakes \* Sierra Club \* Southern Environmental Law Center \* Surfrider Foundation \* Waterkeeper Alliance**

April 26, 2021

Dear Senator:

On behalf of our millions of members and supporters, we urge you to support the Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021 (S.914, or DWWIA) when it is considered on the Senate floor. The bill is an important step on the path towards providing everyone in this country with access to clean, safe, and affordable water. It authorizes increased funding for new and existing drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater programs that will help to provide critical resources to communities across the country.

We are pleased that this legislation was reported unanimously with a 20-0 vote by the Environment and Public Works Committee, documenting bipartisan support for investing in our water infrastructure. It authorizes funds for replacing lead service lines, reauthorizes the Drinking Water and Clean Water State Revolving Funds, starts a pilot program at EPA for low-income water assistance, and authorizes funding for rural and disadvantaged communities, among other measures. We look forward to continued bipartisan support for water infrastructure and for significantly increased appropriated investments in this important priority in future legislation.

While the current bill represents progress in the right direction, more work is needed to ensure that everyone, especially low-income communities and communities of color who have historically borne the brunt of pollution and failing water infrastructure, has access to clean water for drinking, fishing, and recreation. As the bill advances, we are committed to working with Congressional leaders on key issues including ensuring that the legislation establishes a permanent national low-income water assistance program as a step toward more comprehensive water affordability solutions, dramatically increasing overall funding and directing more of it to disadvantaged communities in the form of grants, strengthening and expanding the lead service line replacement and school lead programs, requiring transparent water loss auditing and reporting, investing substantially more in green and natural infrastructure, and addressing other key issues.

Thank you for considering our views. We look forward to working with you and other Congressional leaders to achieve our shared goal of infrastructure that provides clean, safe and affordable water for all.

Sincerely,

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American Rivers  
American Sustainable Business Council  
Anthropocene Alliance  
Black Women's Health Imperative  
Cahaba River Society  
Clean Water Action  
Clean Water Action Minnesota  
Earthjustice  
Endangered Habitats League  
Environment America  
Environmental Defense Fund  
Environmental Law & Policy Center  
For Love of Water (FLOW)  
Great Egg Harbor Watershed Association  
GreenLatinos  
Healthy Gulf  
Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, USA-JPIC  
Illinois Council of Trout Unlimited  
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Onondaga Audubon  
Religious Coalition for the Great Lakes  
Sierra Club  
Southern Environmental Law Center  
Surfrider Foundation  
Waterkeeper Alliance