

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0309

March 9, 2021

The Honorable Tom Carper
Chairman
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20150

The Honorable Shelly Moore Capito
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20150

Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Capito:

Thank you for your ongoing leadership of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. As the committee prepares to consider legislation to reauthorize Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act programs, I write to ask that the state revolving funds, and other water and wastewater infrastructure programs at EPA provide resources to help states, localities, and water utilities invest in resilience and sustainability programs.

Since the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act were signed into law in the 1970s, Arizona's population has grown significantly, and the needs of our growing population look much different than states and communities in other parts of the country. As our state suffers from prolonged drought conditions, many local water utilities, cities, counties, and tribes in Arizona are increasingly embracing new and innovative water conservation and efficiency programs, like creating desalination facilities, modifying wastewater treatment facilities to allow for storm water and wastewater reuse, and investing in natural infrastructure projects, which add resiliency to our state's water systems.

It is critical that federal water infrastructure programs support these innovative approaches. Therefore, as the committee considers legislation to reauthorize key drinking water and wastewater programs, I ask that funding be set aside for alternative water source projects which help water users conserve, manage, reclaim, or reuse storm water or wastewater, create desalination facilities, enhance water efficiency programs, and protect our water systems from natural hazards.

Arizona's continued growth is dependent on strong water infrastructure, and I look forward to working with you to ensure that our state gets the resources we need to continue this growth. Thank you again for your ongoing leadership.

Sincerely,



Mark Kelly
United States Senator