



Water Infrastructure Modernization Act

Rep. Ruben Gallego & Rep. John Duarte

SECTION-BY-SECTION SUMMARY

SECTION 1: SHORT TITLE, TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 2: PURPOSES

The purposes of this bill are to:

- Update and modernize the drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater system of the United States
- Support the modernization of publicly owned works and drinking water infrastructure in the U.S. to address demand impacts, resiliency, public health, and natural resources.
- Encourage the use of water-efficient technologies to address drought and prepare for strain on water supplies.

Title 1- Wastewater Infrastructure

Authorizes a grant program for wastewater utilities to plan, design, construct, and conduct operations training for smart wastewater infrastructure technology. Grant awards will improve energy efficiency, reliability, and resiliency; improve water quality; reduce operational costs; prevent water loss; and reduce municipal water consumption. Eligible intelligent wastewater and stormwater technologies include: real-time monitoring, embedded intelligence, and predictive maintenance capabilities; real-time monitoring sensors; artificial intelligence and other intelligent optimization tools; and innovative sewer and stormwater control projects.

The program includes a 20 percent set-aside for communities with populations of not more than 10,000 individuals, and a 10 percent set-aside for Tribal communities. There is a 25 percent non-federal cost-share, subject to EPA's discretion to waive the cost-share requirement for communities unable to meet the cost-share requirement.

Authorizes \$25 million to carry out this section for the period of Fiscal Years 2024-2028.

The program upholds existing Buy America requirements and requires EPA to report to Congress on projects funded and recommendations on how to improve the program.

Title 2- Drinking Water Infrastructure

Authorizes a grant program for water utilities to plan, design, construct, and conduct operations training for smart water infrastructure technology. Grants will support technologies that identify water losses, provide remote sensing of pipeline integrity, provide real-time sensing for leaks and pipe bursts, integrate water distribution networks, install advanced metering, and utilize innovative and advanced water supply storage projects.

The program includes a 20 percent set-aside for communities with populations of not more than 10,000 individuals, and a 10 percent set-aside for Tribal communities. There is a 25 percent non-federal cost-share, subject to EPA's discretion to waive the cost-share requirement for communities unable to meet the cost-share requirement.

Authorizes \$25 million to carry out this section for the period of Fiscal Years 2024-2028.

The program upholds existing Buy America requirements and requires EPA to report to Congress on projects funded and recommendations on how to improve the program.