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(Original Signature of Member)

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R.

To amend certain provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. LATTA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# A BILL

To amend certain provisions of the Safe Drinking Water Act, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Drinking Water Af-  
5 fordability Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS TO SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT.**

7 (a) NATIONAL DRINKING WATER REGULATIONS.—

8 Section 1412(b)(9) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42  
9 U.S.C. 300g–1(b)(9)) is amended by striking the last sen-

1 tence and inserting “Any revision of a national primary  
2 drinking water regulation shall be promulgated in accord-  
3 ance with this section, including paragraphs (3) through  
4 (6) of this subsection.”

5 (b) ENFORCEMENT OF DRINKING WATER REGULA-  
6 TIONS.—Section 1414(h)(1)(C) of the Safe Drinking  
7 Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300g–3(h)(1)(C)) is amended by  
8 inserting “or management” after “the transfer of owner-  
9 ship”.

10 (c) STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS.—

11 (1) ASSISTANCE FOR DISADVANTAGED COMMU-  
12 NITIES.—Section 1452(d)(2) of the Safe Drinking  
13 Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j–12(d)(2)) is amended by  
14 striking “30” and inserting “35”.

15 (2) TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.—Section 1452(f)(1)  
16 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j–  
17 12(f)(1)) is amended—

18 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (C)  
19 and (D) as subparagraphs (D) and (E), respec-  
20 tively;

21 (B) by inserting after subparagraph (B)  
22 the following new subparagraph:

23 “(C) each loan will be fully amortized not  
24 later than 30 years after the completion of the  
25 project, except that in the case of a disadvan-

1           tagged community (as defined in subsection  
2           (d)(3)) a State may provide an extended term  
3           for a loan, if the extended term—

4                   “(i) terminates not later than the date  
5                   that is 40 years after the date of project  
6                   completion; and

7                   “(ii) does not exceed the expected de-  
8                   sign life of the project;”; and

9           (C) in subparagraph (B), by striking “1  
10           year after completion of the project for which  
11           the loan was made” and all that follows  
12           through “design life of the project;” and insert-  
13           ing “18 months after completion of the project  
14           for which the loan was made;”.

15           (4) OTHER AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Section  
16           1452(k)(1)(C) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42  
17           U.S.C. 300j–12(k)(1)(C)) is amended by striking  
18           “for fiscal years 1996 and 1997” and all that fol-  
19           lows through the period at the end and inserting  
20           “for fiscal years 2018 through 2024 to delineate, as-  
21           sess, update assessments, and undertake implemen-  
22           tation activities with respect to source water protec-  
23           tion areas in accordance with the requirements of a  
24           program approved under section 1453, excluding any  
25           activity required to be conducted under the Federal

1 Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et  
2 seq.).”.

3 (d) EXEMPTION FROM FEDERAL CROSS-CUTTING  
4 REQUIREMENTS.—Part E of the Safe Drinking Water Act  
5 (42 U.S.C. 300j et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
6 the following new section:

7 **“SEC. 1459C. EXEMPTION FROM FEDERAL CROSS-CUTTING**  
8 **REQUIREMENTS.**

9 “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Ad-  
10 ministrator shall exempt a public water system that re-  
11 ceives financial assistance pursuant to section 1452 from  
12 a Federal cross-cutting requirement if the Administrator  
13 determines that the State in which the public water system  
14 is located has in effect a requirement which is not less  
15 stringent than the Federal cross-cutting requirement.”.

16 (e) DEFINITION OF FEDERAL CROSS-CUTTING RE-  
17 QUIREMENT.—Section 1401 of the Safe Drinking Water  
18 Act (42 U.S.C. 300f) is amended by adding at the end  
19 the following new paragraph:

20 “(17) FEDERAL CROSS-CUTTING REQUIRE-  
21 MENT.—The term ‘Federal cross-cutting require-  
22 ment’ means a requirement of a Federal law or reg-  
23 ulation, compliance with which is a condition on re-  
24 ceipt of a loan or grant under this title, that, if ap-  
25 plied to projects and activities receiving such finan-

1           cial assistance, would be redundant with a require-  
2           ment of an applicable State or local law.”.

3 **SEC. 3. REPORTS.**

4           (a) STATE LOAN FUND ADMINISTRATION AND AP-  
5           PLICATION PROCESS.—

6                   (1) REVIEW.—The Administrator of the Envi-  
7                   ronmental Protection Agency shall conduct a review  
8                   on best practices for—

9                           (A) streamlining the application process  
10                           for public water systems to receive loans or loan  
11                           guarantees from a State drinking water treat-  
12                           ment revolving loan fund; and

13                           (B) efficient administration of State drink-  
14                           ing water treatment revolving loan funds.

15                   (2) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the  
16                   date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of  
17                   the Environmental Protection Agency shall submit  
18                   to Congress, and make available to States, a report  
19                   on the review conducted under paragraph (1), in-  
20                   cluding any recommendations.

21                   (b) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after  
22                   the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General  
23                   of the United States shall prepare and submit to Congress  
24                   a report containing—

1           (1) the results of a study of cost-effective and  
2           economically feasible rehabilitation or replacement of  
3           drinking water infrastructure to meet the goals of  
4           the Safe Drinking Water Act; and

5           (2) an assessment of barriers that preclude  
6           communities from using materials and technologies  
7           studied pursuant to paragraph (1).