

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 21, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi:

Thank you for your commitment to safeguard our public health and our environment by ensuring that every community has safe, clean drinking water. We respectfully ask that funding for full replacement of all lead service lines across the country as well as substantial water infrastructure investments be included in an infrastructure agreement at the earliest opportunity.

The science is clear on this issue, and the stakes are high. There is no safe level of lead, and the dangers are greatest for our children. Children experiencing lead exposure will likely suffer lifelong consequences. Sadly, despite the well-established dangers of lead, and numerous tragic examples showing lead service lines contaminating the water they carry, these components are still commonly found in water systems. EPA has estimated that up to 10 million of these lines are currently in use. These lines are found in every state and often disproportionately threaten low-income communities and communities of color.

The scope and gravity of this problem demands an immediate and comprehensive national response. President Biden's American Jobs Plan has called for \$45 billion for lead service line replacements, and H.R. 3684, the INVEST in America Act, which recently passed the House, authorized \$45 billion over 10 years for removal of these dangerous lines. Similarly, the fact sheet that accompanied the Senate's Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework stated the agreement would "eliminate the nation's lead service lines and pipes." This funding must be designed to provide for full replacement of all lead lines, prioritize low-income communities, and prohibit dangerous partial replacements. Such a push to replace lead service lines, along with additional substantial water infrastructure investments, will not only safeguard our health and our environment, it will also provide family-sustaining jobs now while reducing exposure to lead for generations into the future.

We serve geographically, economically, and culturally diverse districts, but we share a sense of duty to care for and protect our constituents from preventable tragedies and known health hazards. Lead service line replacement is a top infrastructure, environmental, and equity priority and must be included in any infrastructure legislation considered for House passage. As you continue to lead efforts to enact funding that invests in our nation's infrastructure, we respectfully ask that \$45 billion be included and fully funded to remove lead service lines.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress

Gwen Moore
Member of Congress

Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress

Colin Z. Allred
Member of Congress

Cynthia Axne
Member of Congress

Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress

Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.
Member of Congress

Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress

Julia Brownley
Member of Congress

Cori Bush
Member of Congress

Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress

Salud O. Carbajal
Member of Congress

Tony Cárdenas
Member of Congress

André Carson
Member of Congress

Sean Casten
Member of Congress

David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress

Steve Cohen
Member of Congress

Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress

Angie Craig
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress

Diana DeGette
Member of Congress

Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress

Debbie Dingell
Member of Congress

Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress

Michael F. Doyle
Member of Congress

Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress

Bill Foster
Member of Congress

Ruben Gallego
Member of Congress

Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress

Vincente Gonzalez
Member of Congress

Al Green
Member of Congress

Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress

Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress

Brian Higgins
Member of Congress

Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress

Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress

Ro Khanna
Member of Congress

Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress

Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress

Brenda L. Lawrence
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

Tom Malinowski
Member of Congress

Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress

Kathy E. Manning
Member of Congress

Doris O. Matsui
Member of Congress

A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress

Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress

Grace Meng
Member of Congress

Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress

Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress

Marie Newman
Member of Congress

Donald Norcross
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress

Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress

Mark Pocan
Member of Congress

Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress

Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress

Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress

Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress

Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress

C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger
Member of Congress

Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress

Tim Ryan
Member of Congress

John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress

Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress

Bradley Scott Schneider
Member of Congress

David Scott
Member of Congress

Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress

Albio Sires
Member of Congress

Elissa Slotkin
Member of Congress

Adam Smith
Member of Congress

Darren Soto
Member of Congress

Abigail D. Spanberger
Member of Congress

Melanie Ann Stansbury
Member of Congress

Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress

Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress

Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress

Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress

Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress

Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress

Lori Trahan
Member of Congress

Lauren Underwood
Member of Congress

Juan Vargas
Member of Congress

Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

Maxine Waters
Member of Congress

Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress

Peter Welch
Member of Congress

Susan Wild
Member of Congress

Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress

Robert C. “Bobby” Scott
Member of Congress