

# Clean Water SRF Parity Act: Why It Matters for Safe, Affordable Wastewater Service

Equitable SRF access accelerates compliance, lowers costs and protects public health



BACKGROUND:

## What Is the Clean Water SRF Parity Act?

The Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) provides low-interest loans and grants for wastewater infrastructure projects. Today, publicly owned treatment works dominate eligibility and participation, while professional wastewater companies and private wastewater service providers—serving millions of Americans—are largely excluded.

The Clean Water SRF Parity Act would expand eligibility to private, regulated wastewater utilities, ensuring every community can access federal and state-administered financing for critical upgrades, ensuring all taxpayers are treated equitably regardless of whether their service is provided by a public or private utility.

NEED:

## Why This Legislation Is Needed

- **Aging Infrastructure Crisis:** The U.S. wastewater and stormwater sector has a projected funding gap of more than \$690 billion by 2044. Many small systems struggle to fund upgrades without affordable financing and can benefit from the scale, technical expertise, and operational efficiencies of private wastewater service providers.
- **Public Health & Environmental Compliance:** New mandates for PFAS treatment, nutrient removal, and climate resilience require billions in capital. Excluding private wastewater service providers slows compliance and leaves customers vulnerable.
- **Equity for Customers:** Many customers served by private providers pay taxes and fees that support SRF programs—but receive zero benefit under current rules. This undermines affordability for disadvantaged communities served by professional water companies.
- **Affordability & Rate Stability:** SRF loans average 1.5% interest vs. 4–6% commercial rates, saving millions over project lifecycles and reducing pressure on customer bills.

## What Expanded Eligibility Would Achieve

SOLUTIONS:

Accelerated  
environmental  
compliance

Lower costs to  
reduce customer  
bill impacts

Bring professional  
operations to  
distressed systems

### References

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