



March 16, 2017

The Honorable Roger Wicker
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Heidi Heitkamp
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Wicker and Heitkamp,

On behalf of the Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP), we want to thank you for your bipartisan leadership in introducing The Small and Rural Community Clean Water Technical Assistance Act (S. 518).

RCAP is a national network of six regional non-profit organizations working to ensure that rural and small communities throughout the country have access to safe drinking water and sanitary wastewater disposal. The Partnership provides a variety of programs to accomplish this goal, such as direct training and on the ground technical assistance.

RCAP believes this legislation is an important, critical step towards providing a much needed clean water technical assistance program to allow small communities, who often lack basic technical and administrative services to receive in-person, hands-on training to comply with federal/state water regulations and assistance in accessing federal funding programs. We look forward to working with you to advance this legislation that ensures that rural communities and small water utility systems have access to the resources they need to comply with federal water regulations.

In closing, we appreciate your ongoing bipartisan commitment to addressing rural America's substantial water infrastructure needs. This legislation is integral to achieving long-term sustainability of rural communities and wastewater systems throughout the United States, while ensuring that all Americans have access to clean, safe, and affordable drinking water. We stand ready to work with you and your Senate colleagues to ensure this bipartisan legislation is passed.

Sincerely,

Robert Stewart
Executive Director
Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP)
Washington, DC

