



April 22, 2020

SENT VIA FACSIMILE: 202-228-0604

Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.
393 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

SENT VIA FACSIMILE: 202-224-4442

Senator Patrick J. Toomey
248 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association (“PMAA”) regarding the recent and ongoing Coronavirus Pandemic that is impacting the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the United States of America and, indeed, the entire world. By way of background, PMAA is an association that represents the interests of over 700 municipal authorities in Pennsylvania, which collectively provide water, sewer, waste management and other services to over five million Pennsylvania citizens. Founded in 1941, the mission of PMAA is to assist authorities in providing services that protect and enhance the environment, promote economic vitality, and further the general welfare of the Commonwealth and its citizens.

We, at PMAA, have been closely following the events related to the Coronavirus Pandemic, including all federal, state and local efforts designed to assist citizens of the United States affected by the Pandemic. During this ongoing crisis, we are pleased to report that our members continue to provide the excellent service that their ratepayers have grown accustomed to, and, indeed, have endeavored to address the adverse economic impacts that many of their ratepayers are currently experiencing because of the Pandemic. PMAA is also aware that an infrastructure bill may now be on the agenda as part of the federal government’s response to the Pandemic. PMAA wholeheartedly supports the passage of an infrastructure bill, which, hopefully, will provide financial assistance to our members and others to address, among other things, aging infrastructure systems throughout Pennsylvania. PMAA strongly believes that an infrastructure package consisting of grants will enable its members to undertake necessary repairs without the cost of such repairs being borne by our members’ ratepayers, whose economic situation may not simply disappear at any time in the foreseeable future. Moreover, many of our members are experiencing a loss in revenue due to the sudden decrease in the demand for water from industrial and business customers, which loss in revenue may further be exacerbated if residential customers are unable to pay their bills if the economic impact of the Pandemic persists. Therefore, PMAA believes that an infrastructure bill should not only include funds to address utilities with water and wastewater systems, but also provide financial assistance to help our members address the aforementioned lost revenue. In addition, as noted above, PMAA’s members include municipal authorities dealing with waste management and recycling issues. These members are also experiencing a loss of revenue due to the closure of businesses and they, too,

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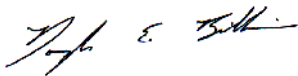
should be afforded financial relief in such a bill. Again, PMAA believes that such assistance will help mitigate costs that may ultimately have to be borne by our members' ratepayers.

Finally, with respect to a prospective infrastructure bill, PMAA believes that such a bill should mandate that the federal and state governments closely coordinate efforts to ensure that water and wastewater infrastructure repairs are undertaken at the same time that our bridges, roads and highways are repaired. Such a provision will avoid the duplication of effort and needless expenditure of funds provided in the infrastructure bill. By way of example, if a highway in a given area is scheduled for repair or replacement, any utilities with water or wastewater lines under that highway should also be given the opportunity to repair such lines at the same time, while access to those lines is readily accessible.

In conclusion, PMAA is indeed encouraged by the recent discussions of a federal infrastructure bill. We stand ready to assist our federal and state governments in any way necessary to help promote the passage of such a bill, which will undoubtedly improve the lives of those in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and throughout the United States of America. Again, our best wishes to everyone in the United States in dealing with the Coronavirus Pandemic, and sincerely hope that at some point in the not too distant future, we are able to put this deadly virus wholly in the past.

Thank you once again for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Douglas E. Bilheimer
Executive Director

cc via facsimile:

Representative Brendan Boyle – 202-226-0611
Representative Matt Cartwright – 202-226-0996
Representative Madeleine Dean – 215-884-3640
Representative Michael Doyle – 202-225-3084
Representative Dwight Evans – 202-225-5392
Representative Brian Fitzpatrick – 202-225-9511
Representative Chrissy Houlahan – via first class mail
Representative John Joyce – via first class mail
Representative Fred Keller – via first class mail
Representative Mike Kelly – 202-225-3103
Representative Conor Lamb – 202-225-1844
Representative Daniel Meuser – via first class mail
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Representative Guy Reschenthaler – via first class mail
Representative Mary Scanlon – via first class mail
Representative Lloyd Smucker – 202-225-2013
Representative Glenn Thompson – 202-225-5796
Representative Susan Wild – via first class mail