

114TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 4542

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a low-income sewer and water assistance pilot program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 2016

Ms. FUDGE (for herself, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. KILDEE, Mrs. LAWRENCE, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Ms. KAPTUR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a low-income sewer and water assistance pilot program.

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 “Low Income Sewer  
5 and Water Assistance Program Act of 2016”.

1 **SEC. 2. LOW-INCOME SEWER AND WATER ASSISTANCE**  
2 **PILOT PROGRAM.**

3 Title I of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act  
4 (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end  
5 the following:

6 **“SEC. 123. LOW-INCOME SEWER AND WATER ASSISTANCE**  
7 **PILOT PROGRAM.**

8 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall es-  
9 tablish a pilot program to award grants to not fewer than  
10 10 eligible entities to assist low-income households in  
11 maintaining access to sanitation services.

12 “(b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the  
13 date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall  
14 submit to Congress a report on the results of the program  
15 established under this section.

16 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 “(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible en-  
18 tity’ means a municipality, or a public entity that  
19 owns or operates a public water system, that is af-  
20 fected by a consent decree relating to compliance  
21 with this Act.

22 “(2) HOUSEHOLD.—The term ‘household’  
23 means any individual or group of individuals who  
24 are living together as one economic unit.

25 “(3) LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLD.—

1           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘low-income  
2 household’ means a household—

3                   “(i) in which 1 or more individuals  
4 are receiving—

5                           “(I) assistance under a State  
6 program funded under part A of title  
7 IV of the Social Security Act;

8                           “(II) supplemental security in-  
9 come payments under title XVI of the  
10 Social Security Act;

11                           “(III) supplemental nutrition as-  
12 sistance program benefits under the  
13 Food and Nutrition Act of 2008; or

14                           “(IV) payments under section  
15 1315, 1521, 1541, or 1542 of title 38,  
16 United States Code, or under section  
17 306 of the Veterans’ and Survivors’  
18 Pension Improvement Act of 1978; or

19                           “(ii) that has an income determined  
20 by the State in which the eligible entity is  
21 located to not exceed the greater of—

22                                   “(I) an amount equal to 150 per-  
23 cent of the poverty level for the State;

24                                   or

1                   “(II) an amount equal to 60 per-  
2                   cent of the State median income; and

3                   “(B) LOWER INCOME LIMIT.—For pur-  
4                   poses of this section, a State may adopt an in-  
5                   come limit that is lower than the limit described  
6                   in subparagraph (A)(ii), except that the State  
7                   may not exclude a household from eligibility in  
8                   a fiscal year solely on the basis of household in-  
9                   come if such income is less than 110 percent of  
10                  the poverty level for such State.

11                  “(4) PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM.—The term ‘pub-  
12                  lic water system’ has the meaning given that term  
13                  in section 1401 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42  
14                  U.S.C. 300f).

15                  “(5) SANITATION SERVICES.—The term ‘sanita-  
16                  tion services’ has the meaning given that term in  
17                  section 113(g).”.

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