



**September 1, 2023**

### **FY2024 Funding**

As we have previously reported, the House and Senate have passed vastly different spending bills as they relate to clean water funding, with the House measure seeking to impose significant cuts for SRFs.

With Congress in recess until after Labor Day, it is unclear how this issue will be resolved when the members return. In addition to encouraging Coalition members to send support letters, the Coalition sent a position letter to key lawmakers and staff.

### **Appropriations Allocations and Process**

For the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF), the House Interior Appropriations bill provides \$1.005 billion while the Senate Interior Appropriations bill provides \$1.639 billion. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) provides an additional \$2.628 billion for the CWSRF. The President's FY 24 Budget proposed \$1.639 billion and rejected earmarks as a takedown from the basic SRF funding.

For the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SDSRF), the House Interior Appropriations bill provides \$870.6 million and the Senate Interior Appropriations bill appropriates \$1.126 billion. The BIL provides an additional \$3 billion for the SDWSRF which is slated to receive \$1.126 billion in the President's budget which rejected earmarks as a takedown from the basic SRF funding.

Funding for the Water Infrastructure and Innovation Act (WIFIA) and Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) programs could also be impacted.

### **Advocacy**

Coalition members were encouraged to contact their House and Senate Members to oppose the low general fund base allotment level for the SRFs and support SRF funding at the expected FY24 level.

In addition, the Coalition continues to express concern about the use of earmarks which have resulted in reductions in base funding allotments for SRFs which is contrary to the goals of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law which was to increase SRF spending.

To date, only one of the 12 bills has passed either House and, with Congress still on recess, a continuing resolution is likely to avoid a government shutdown.

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\* Steering Committee Member



## Other Issues and Bills of Interest

The future of the House Republicans' plan to balance the budget in 10 years remains uncertain with disagreement over what spending would be cut.

We are continuing to pursue funding for the Alternative Water Source Program and Mega Recycled Water Project projects.

We are working with Senator Feinstein's office to advance the STREAM Act which provides significant funding for water recycling, surface and groundwater storage and conveyance, desalination, drinking water for disadvantaged communities, and environmental restoration.

The Coalition sent a letter of support for this bill when it was heard in Committee in July.

We are prepared to advocate for programs of interest such as those included in the House-passed "Build Back Better" aimed at improving critical water infrastructure.

## Key Advocates Report

Included with this notice is Key Advocates' recent report from August 31 which provides more detail on these and other issues.