

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6060

To direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program to provide grants to units of local governments, drinking water systems, and federally recognized Indian Tribes for the replacement of lead, galvanized steel, and iron service lines and lead drinking water mains, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 17, 2025

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program to provide grants to units of local governments, drinking water systems, and federally recognized Indian Tribes for the replacement of lead, galvanized steel, and iron service lines and lead drinking water mains, and for other purposes.

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 “Safe and Fair Elimination of Taps with Lead Service Lines Act” or the
5 “SAFE Taps Act”.
6

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

3 (1) The presence of lead in drinking water
4 poses a grave and ongoing threat to public health in
5 the United States. The Environmental Protection
6 Agency and the Centers for Disease Control and
7 Prevention agree that there is no known safe level
8 of lead exposure, which causes irreversible neuro-
9 logical damage in children and serious health condi-
10 tions in adults.

11 (2) Lead service lines, which connect drinking
12 water mains to millions of homes, schools, and
13 childcare facilities, are the most significant source of
14 lead contamination in drinking water. The Environ-
15 mental Protection Agency estimates that 9.2 million
16 lead service lines serve water to buildings in commu-
17 nities across the United States.

18 (3) The Environmental Protection Agency,
19 through subpart I of part 141 of title 40, Code of
20 Federal Regulations, has mandated the full replace-
21 ment of most lead service lines within a 10-year pe-
22 riod, placing a significant legal and financial obliga-
23 tion on units of local governments and public water
24 systems.

25 (4) While State revolving loan funds established
26 under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act

1 (42 U.S.C. 300j–12) are a critical tool to finance
2 water infrastructure, the primary structure of such
3 funds as a loan program is inadequate to meet the
4 needs of many communities facing the lead service
5 line replacement mandate under subpart I of part
6 141 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations. Finan-
7 cially distressed and disadvantaged communities
8 often lack the debt capacity to accept loans or the
9 technical capacity to navigate the complex applica-
10 tion process under a State revolving loan fund.

11 (5) The funds made available for lead service
12 line replacement projects and associated activities by
13 the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public
14 Law 117–58) provided a historic and vital down
15 payment for lead service line replacement, but the
16 overwhelming demand for these funds demonstrated
17 that a substantial funding gap remains and that a
18 loan-based system presents significant barriers to
19 the most vulnerable communities.

20 (6) In many older communities, lead service
21 lines are connected to aging drinking water mains
22 that are also at or near the end of their useful life.
23 Forcing municipalities to replace lead service lines
24 without addressing these deteriorating drinking

1 water mains is fiscally inefficient and fails to ensure
2 the long-term integrity of the water system.

3 (7) A dedicated Federal grant program is there-
4 fore necessary to ensure the equitable, efficient, and
5 timely replacement of all lead service lines and
6 drinking water mains that are not lead free to pro-
7 tect public health, to achieve compliance with sub-
8 part I of part 141 of title 40, Code of Federal Regu-
9 lations, and to advance environmental justice for all
10 Americans.

11 **SEC. 3. GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF**
12 **LEAD, GALVANIZED STEEL, AND IRON SERV-**
13 **ICE LINES AND LEAD DRINKING WATER**
14 **MAINS.**

15 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall es-
16 tablish a program to provide grants, subject to the avail-
17 ability of appropriations, to eligible recipients to pay for
18 eligible project costs.

19 (b) LABOR STANDARDS.—All laborers and mechanics
20 employed by contractors or subcontractors in the perform-
21 ance of construction, alteration, or repair work financed
22 in whole or in part with a grant provided under the pro-
23 gram shall be paid wages at rates not less than those pre-
24 vailing on similar work in the locality as determined by
25 the Secretary of Labor in accordance with subchapter IV

1 of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (commonly
2 referred to as the “Davis-Bacon Act”).

3 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
6 trator” means the Administrator of the Environ-
7 mental Protection Agency.

8 (2) ELIGIBLE PROJECT COSTS.—The term “eli-
9 gible project costs” means costs to—

10 (A) replace a lead service line;

11 (B) replace galvanized steel or iron service
12 lines that are or were downstream of lead com-
13 ponents;

14 (C) replace a drinking water main that is
15 not lead free;

16 (D) plan for or otherwise design the re-
17 placement of a lead service line, galvanized steel
18 or iron service line, or drinking water main
19 using a grant provided under the program;

20 (E) develop or update any inventory of
21 lead service lines; and

22 (F) restore the site at which a service line
23 or drinking water main is replaced using a
24 grant provided under the program.

1 (3) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENT.—The term “eligible
2 recipient” means—

3 (A) a unit of local government;

4 (B) a public water system; or

5 (C) a federally recognized Indian Tribe.

6 (4) LEAD FREE.—The term “lead free” has the
7 meaning given such term in section 1417(d)(1) of
8 the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300g–
9 6(d)(1)).

10 (5) LEAD SERVICE LINE.—The term “lead serv-
11 ice line” has the meaning given such term in section
12 1459B(a) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42
13 U.S.C. 300j–19b(a)).

14 (6) PROGRAM.—The term “program” means
15 the program established under section 3(a).

16 (7) PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM.—The term “public
17 water system” has the meaning given such term in
18 section 1401(4) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42
19 U.S.C. 300f(4)).

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