

The previous question was ordered. the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REPORT CONCERNING EMIGRATION LAWS AND POLICIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 104-246)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

On June 3, 1993, I determined and reported to the Congress that Bulgaria is in full compliance with the freedom of emigration criteria of sections 402 and 409 of the Trade Act of 1974. This action allowed for the continuation of most-favored-nation (MFN) status for Bulgaria and certain other activities without the requirement of a waiver.

As required by law, I am submitting an updated report to the Congress concerning emigration laws and policies of the Republic of Bulgaria. The report indicates continued Bulgarian compliance with U.S. and international standards in the area of emigration policy.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 17, 1996.

REPORT OF PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY BOARD ON ARMS PROLIFERATION POLICY—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on International Relations:

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 1601(d) of Public Law 103-160 (the "Act") I transmit herewith the report of the President's Advisory Board on Arms Proliferation Policy. The Board was established by Executive Order 12946 (January 20, 1995), pursuant to section 1601(c) of the Act.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 17, 1996.

SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1995

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 1316) to reauthorize and amend title XIV of the Public Health Service Act (commonly known as the "Safe Drinking Water Act"), and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate bill, as follows:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS; REFERENCES.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents; references.
- Sec. 2. Findings.
- Sec. 3. State revolving loan funds.
- Sec. 4. Selection of contaminants; schedule.
- Sec. 5. Risk assessment, management, and communication.
- Sec. 6. Standard-setting; review of standards.
- Sec. 7. Arsenic.
- Sec. 8. Radon.
- Sec. 9. Sulfate.
- Sec. 10. Filtration and disinfection.
- Sec. 11. Effective date for regulations.
- Sec. 12. Technology and treatment techniques; technology centers.
- Sec. 13. Variances and exemptions.
- Sec. 14. Small systems; technical assistance.
- Sec. 15. Capacity development; finance centers.
- Sec. 16. Operator and laboratory certification.
- Sec. 17. Source water quality protection partnerships.
- Sec. 18. State primacy; State funding.
- Sec. 19. Monitoring and information gathering.
- Sec. 20. Public notification.
- Sec. 21. Enforcement; judicial review.
- Sec. 22. Federal agencies.
- Sec. 23. Research.
- Sec. 24. Definitions.
- Sec. 25. Watershed and ground water protection.
- Sec. 26. Lead plumbing and pipes; return flows.
- Sec. 27. Bottled water.
- Sec. 28. Other amendments.

(c) REFERENCES TO TITLE XIV OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of title XIV of the Public Health Service Act (commonly known as the "Safe Drinking Water Act") (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.).

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

- (1) safe drinking water is essential to the protection of public health;
- (2) because the requirements of title XIV of the Public Health Service Act (commonly known as the "Safe Drinking Water Act") (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.) now exceed the financial and technical capacity of some public water systems, especially many small public water systems, the Federal Government needs to provide assistance to communities to help the communities meet Federal drinking water requirements;
- (3) the Federal Government commits to take steps to foster and maintain a genuine partnership with the States in the administration and implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act;

(4) States play a central role in the implementation of safe drinking water programs, and States need increased financial resources and appropriate flexibility to ensure the prompt and effective development and implementation of drinking water programs;

(5) the existing process for the assessment and regulation of additional drinking water contaminants needs to be revised and improved to ensure that there is a sound scientific basis for drinking water regulations and that the standards established address the health risks posed by contaminants;

(6) procedures for assessing the health effects of contaminants and establishing drinking water standards should be revised to provide greater opportunity for public education and participation;

(7) in setting priorities with respect to the health risks from drinking water to be addressed and in selecting the appropriate level of regulation for contaminants in drinking water, risk assessment and benefit-cost analysis are important and useful tools for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of drinking water regulations to protect human health;

(8) more effective protection of public health requires—

(A) a Federal commitment to set priorities that will allow scarce Federal, State, and local resources to be targeted toward the drinking water problems of greatest public health concern; and

(B) maximizing the value of the different and complementary strengths and responsibilities of the Federal and State governments in those States that have primary enforcement responsibility for the Safe Drinking Water Act; and

(9) compliance with the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act continues to be a concern at public water systems experiencing technical and financial limitations, and Federal, State, and local governments need more resources and more effective authority to attain the objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

SEC. 3. STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS.

The title (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"PART G—STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUNDS

"GENERAL AUTHORITY

"SEC. 1471. (a) CAPITALIZATION GRANT AGREEMENTS.—The Administrator shall offer to enter into an agreement with each State to make capitalization grants to the State pursuant to section 1472 (referred to in this part as 'capitalization grants') to establish a drinking water treatment State revolving loan fund (referred to in this part as a 'State loan fund').

"(b) REQUIREMENTS OF AGREEMENTS.—An agreement entered into pursuant to this section shall establish, to the satisfaction of the Administrator, that—

"(1) the State has established a State loan fund that complies with the requirements of this part;

"(2) the State loan fund will be administered by an instrumentality of the State that has the powers and authorities that are required to operate the State loan fund in accordance with this part;

"(3) the State will deposit the capitalization grants into the State loan fund;

"(4) the State will deposit all loan repayments received, and interest earned on the amounts deposited into the State loan fund under this part, into the State loan fund;

"(5) the State will deposit into the State loan fund an amount equal to at least 20 percent of the total amount of each payment to be made to the State on or before the date on which the payment is made to the State, except as provided in subsection (c)(4);

“(6) the State will use funds in the State loan fund in accordance with an intended use plan prepared pursuant to section 1474(b);

“(7) the State and loan recipients that receive funds that the State makes available from the State loan fund will use accounting procedures that conform to generally accepted accounting principles, auditing procedures that conform to chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Single Audit Act of 1984’), and such fiscal procedures as the Administrator may prescribe; and

“(8) the State has adopted policies and procedures to ensure that loan recipients are reasonably likely to be able to repay a loan.

“(C) ADMINISTRATION OF STATE LOAN FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The authority to establish assistance priorities for financial assistance provided with amounts deposited into the State loan fund shall reside in the State agency that has primary responsibility for the administration of the State program under section 1413, after consultation with other appropriate State agencies (as determined by the State); *Provided further*, that in nonprimacy States, the Governor shall determine which State agency will have the authority to establish assistance priorities for financial assistance provided with amounts deposited into the State loan fund.

“(2) FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION.—A State may combine the financial administration of the State loan fund pursuant to this part with the financial administration of a State water pollution control revolving fund established by the State pursuant to title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.), or other State revolving funds providing financing for similar purposes, if the Administrator determines that the grants to be provided to the State under this part, and the loan repayments and interest deposited into the State loan fund pursuant to this part, will be separately accounted for and used solely for the purposes of and in compliance with the requirements of this part.

“(3) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a Governor of a State may—

“(i) reserve up to 50 percent of a capitalization grant made pursuant to section 1472 and add the funds reserved to any funds provided to the State pursuant to section 601 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1381); and

“(ii) reserve in any year a dollar amount up to the dollar amount that may be reserved under clause (i) for that year from capitalization grants made pursuant to section 601 of such Act (33 U.S.C. 1381) and add the reserved funds to any funds provided to the State pursuant to section 1472.

“(B) STATE MATCH.—Funds reserved pursuant to this paragraph shall not be considered to be a State match of a capitalization grant required pursuant to this title or the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.).

“(4) EXTENDED PERIOD.—Notwithstanding subsection (b)(5), a State shall not be required to deposit a State matching amount into the fund prior to the date on which each payment is made for payments from funds appropriated for fiscal years 1994, 1995, and 1996, if the matching amounts for the payments are deposited into the State fund prior to September 30, 1998.

“CAPITALIZATION GRANTS

“SEC. 1472. (a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The Administrator may make grants to capitalize State loan funds to a State that has entered into an agreement pursuant to section 1471.

“(b) FORMULA FOR ALLOTMENT OF FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (c) and paragraph (2), funds made available to carry out this part shall be allotted to States that have entered into an agreement pursuant to section 1471 in accordance with—

“(A) for each of fiscal years 1995 through 1997, a formula that is the same as the formula used to distribute public water system supervision grant funds under section 1443 in fiscal year 1995, except that the minimum proportionate share established in the formula shall be 1 percent of available funds and the formula shall be adjusted to include a minimum proportionate share for the State of Wyoming; and

“(B) for fiscal year 1998 and each subsequent fiscal year, a formula that allocates to each State the proportional share of the State needs identified in the most recent survey conducted pursuant to section 1475(c), except that the minimum proportionate share provided to each State shall be the same as the minimum proportionate share provided under subparagraph (A).

“(2) OTHER JURISDICTIONS.—The formula established pursuant to paragraph (1) shall reserve 0.5 percent of the amounts made available to carry out this part for a fiscal year for providing direct grants to the jurisdictions, other than Indian Tribes, referred to in subsection (f).

“(c) RESERVATION OF FUNDS FOR INDIAN TRIBES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For each fiscal year, prior to the allotment of funds made available to carry out this part, the Administrator shall reserve 1.5 percent of the funds for providing financial assistance to Indian Tribes pursuant to subsection (f).

“(2) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds reserved pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be used to address the most significant threats to public health associated with public water systems that serve Indian Tribes, as determined by the Administrator in consultation with the Director of the Indian Health Service and Indian Tribes.

“(3) NEEDS ASSESSMENT.—The Administrator, in consultation with the Director of the Indian Health Service and Indian Tribes, shall, in accordance with a schedule that is consistent with the needs surveys conducted pursuant to section 1475(c), prepare surveys and assess the needs of drinking water treatment facilities to serve Indian Tribes, including an evaluation of the public water systems that pose the most significant threats to public health.

“(d) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR SMALL SYSTEMS.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) SMALL SYSTEM.—The term ‘small system’ means a public water system that serves a population of 10,000 or fewer.

“(B) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The term ‘technical assistance’ means assistance provided by a State to a small system, including assistance to potential loan recipients and assistance for planning and design, development and implementation of a source water quality protection partnership program, alternative supplies of drinking water, restructuring or consolidation of a small system, and treatment to comply with a national primary drinking water regulation.

“(2) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—To provide technical assistance pursuant to this subsection, each State may reserve from capitalization grants received in any year an amount that does not exceed the greater of—

“(A) an amount equal to 2 percent of the amount of the capitalization grants received by the State pursuant to this section; or

“(B) \$300,000.

“(e) ALLOTMENT PERIOD.—

“(1) PERIOD OF AVAILABILITY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the sums allotted to a State pursuant to subsection (b) for a fiscal year shall be available to the State for obligation during the fiscal year for which the sums are authorized and during the following fiscal year.

“(B) FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEARS 1995 AND 1996.—The sums allotted to a State pursuant to subsection (b) from funds that are made available by appropriations for each of fiscal years 1995 and 1996 shall be available to the State for obligation during each of fiscal years 1995 through 1998.

“(2) REALLOTMENT OF UNOBLIGATED FUNDS.—Prior to obligating new allotments made available to the State pursuant to subsection (b), each State shall obligate funds accumulated before a date that is 1 year prior to the date of the obligation of a new allotment from loan repayments and interest earned on amounts deposited into a State loan fund. The amount of any allotment that is not obligated by a State by the last day of the period of availability established by paragraph (1) shall be immediately reallocated by the Administrator on the basis of the same ratio as is applicable to sums allotted under subsection (b), except that the Administrator may reserve and allocate 10 percent of the remaining amount for financial assistance to Indian Tribes in addition to the amount allotted under subsection (c). None of the funds reallocated by the Administrator shall be reallocated to any State that has not obligated all sums allotted to the State pursuant to this section during the period in which the sums were available for obligation.

“(3) ALLOTMENT OF WITHHELD FUNDS.—All funds withheld by the Administrator pursuant to subsection (g) and section 1442(e)(3) shall be allotted by the Administrator on the basis of the same ratio as is applicable to funds allotted under subsection (b). None of the funds allotted by the Administrator pursuant to this paragraph shall be allotted to a State unless the State has met the requirements of section 1418(a).

“(f) DIRECT GRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator is authorized to make grants for the improvement of public water systems of Indian Tribes, the District of Columbia, the United States Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and Guam and, if funds are appropriated to carry out this part for fiscal year 1995, the Republic of Palau.

“(2) ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGES.—In the case of a grant for a project under this subsection in an Alaska Native village, the Administrator is also authorized to make grants to the State of Alaska for the benefit of Native villages. An amount not to exceed 4 percent of the grant amount may be used by the State of Alaska for project management.

“(g) NEW SYSTEM CAPACITY.—Beginning in fiscal year 1999, the Administrator shall withhold the percentage prescribed in the following sentence of each capitalization grant made pursuant to this section to a State unless the State has met the requirements of section 1418(a). The percentage withheld shall be 5 percent for fiscal year 1999, 10 percent for fiscal year 2000, and 15 percent for each subsequent fiscal year.

“ELIGIBLE ASSISTANCE

“SEC. 1473. (a) IN GENERAL.—The amounts deposited into a State loan fund, including any amounts equal to the amounts of loan repayments and interest earned on the amounts deposited, may be used by the State to carry out projects that are consistent with this section.

“(b) PROJECTS ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The amounts deposited into a State loan fund shall be used only for

providing financial assistance for capital expenditures and associated costs (but excluding the cost of land acquisition unless the cost is incurred to acquire land for the construction of a treatment facility or for a consolidation project) for—

“(A) a project that will facilitate compliance with national primary drinking water regulations promulgated pursuant to section 1412;

“(B) a project that will facilitate the consolidation of public water systems or the use of an alternative source of water supply;

“(C) a project that will upgrade a drinking water treatment system; and

“(D) the development of a public water system to replace private drinking water supplies if the private water supplies pose a significant threat to human health.

“(2) OPERATOR TRAINING.—Associated costs eligible for assistance under this part include the costs of training and certifying the persons who will operate facilities that receive assistance pursuant to paragraph (1).

“(3) LIMITATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), no assistance under this part shall be provided to a public water system that—

“(i) does not have the technical, managerial, and financial capability to ensure compliance with the requirements of this title; and

“(ii) has a history of—

“(I) past violations of any maximum contaminant level or treatment technique established by a regulation or a variance; or

“(II) significant noncompliance with monitoring requirements or any other requirement of a national primary drinking water regulation or variance.

“(B) RESTRUCTURING.—A public water system described in subparagraph (A) may receive assistance under this part if—

“(i) the owner or operator of the system agrees to undertake feasible and appropriate changes in operations (including ownership, management, accounting, rates, maintenance, consolidation, alternative water supply, or other procedures) if the State determines that such measures are necessary to ensure that the system has the technical, managerial, and financial capability to comply with the requirements of this title over the long term; and

“(ii) the use of the assistance will ensure compliance.

“(C) ELIGIBLE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS.—A State loan fund, or the Administrator in the case of direct grants under section 1472(f), may provide financial assistance only to community water systems, publicly owned water systems (other than systems owned by Federal agencies), and nonprofit noncommunity water systems.

“(d) TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.—Except as otherwise limited by State law, the amounts deposited into a State loan fund under this section may be used only—

“(1) to make loans, on the condition that—

“(A) the interest rate for each loan is less than or equal to the market interest rate, including an interest free loan;

“(B) principal and interest payments on each loan will commence not later than 1 year after completion of the project for which the loan was made, and each loan will be fully amortized not later than 20 years after the completion of the project, except that in the case of a disadvantaged community (as defined in subsection (e)(1)), a State may provide an extended term for a loan, if the extended term—

“(i) terminates not later than the date that is 30 years after the date of project completion; and

“(ii) does not exceed the expected design life of the project;

“(C) the recipient of each loan will establish a dedicated source of revenue (or, in the case of a privately-owned system, demonstrate that there is adequate security) for the repayment of the loan; and

“(D) the State loan fund will be credited with all payments of principal and interest on each loan;

“(2) to buy or refinance the debt obligation of a municipality or an intermunicipal or interstate agency within the State at an interest rate that is less than or equal to the market interest rate in any case in which a debt obligation is incurred after October 14, 1993, or to refinance a debt obligation for a project constructed to comply with a regulation established pursuant to an amendment to this title made by the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1986 (Public Law 99-339; 100 Stat. 642);

“(3) to guarantee, or purchase insurance for, a local obligation (all of the proceeds of which finance a project eligible for assistance under subsection (b)) if the guarantee or purchase would improve credit market access or reduce the interest rate applicable to the obligation;

“(4) as a source of revenue or security for the payment of principal and interest on revenue or general obligation bonds issued by the State if the proceeds of the sale of the bonds will be deposited into the State loan fund; and

“(5) to earn interest on the amounts deposited into the State loan fund.

“(e) ASSISTANCE FOR DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES.—

“(1) DEFINITION OF DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY.—In this subsection, the term ‘disadvantaged community’ means the service area of a public water system that meets affordability criteria established after public review and comment by the State in which the public water system is located. The Administrator may publish information to assist States in establishing affordability criteria.

“(2) LOAN SUBSIDY.—Notwithstanding subsection (d), in any case in which the State makes a loan pursuant to subsection (d) to a disadvantaged community or to a community that the State expects to become a disadvantaged community as the result of a proposed project, the State may provide additional subsidization (including forgiveness of principal).

“(3) TOTAL AMOUNT OF SUBSIDIES.—For each fiscal year, the total amount of loan subsidies made by a State pursuant to paragraph (2) may not exceed 30 percent of the amount of the capitalization grant received by the State for the year.

“(f) SOURCE WATER QUALITY PROTECTION AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection (b)(1), a State may—

“(A) provide assistance, only in the form of a loan, to—

“(i) any public water system described in subsection (c) to acquire land or a conservation easement from a willing seller or grantor, if the purpose of the acquisition is to protect the source water of the system from contamination; or

“(ii) any community water system described in subsection (c) to provide funding in accordance with section 1419(d)(1)(C)(i);

“(B) provide assistance, including technical and financial assistance, to any public water system as part of a capacity development strategy developed and implemented in accordance with section 1418(c); and

“(C) make expenditures from the capitalization grant of the State for fiscal years 1996 and 1997 to delineate and assess source water protection areas in accordance with section 1419, except that funds set aside for

such expenditure shall be obligated within 4 fiscal years.

“(2) LIMITATION.—For each fiscal year, the total amount of assistance provided and expenditures made by a State under this subsection may not exceed 15 percent of the amount of the capitalization grant received by the State for that year and may not exceed 10 percent of that amount for any one of the following activities:

“(A) To acquire land or conservation easements pursuant to paragraph (1)(A)(i).

“(B) To provide funding to implement recommendations of source water quality protection partnerships pursuant to paragraph (1)(A)(ii).

“(C) To provide assistance through a capacity development strategy pursuant to paragraph (1)(B).

“(D) To make expenditures to delineate or assess source water protection areas pursuant to paragraph (1)(C).

“STATE LOAN FUND ADMINISTRATION

“SEC. 1474. (a) ADMINISTRATION, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND MANAGEMENT.—

“(1) ADMINISTRATION.—Each State that has a State loan fund is authorized to expend from the annual capitalization grant of the State a reasonable amount, not to exceed 4 percent of the capitalization grant made to the State, for the costs of the administration of the State loan fund.

“(2) STATE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Each State that has a loan fund is authorized to expend from the annual capitalization grant of the State an amount, determined pursuant to this paragraph, to carry out the public water system supervision program under section 1443(a) and to—

“(i) administer, or provide technical assistance through, source water quality protection programs, including a partnership program under section 1419; and

“(ii) develop and implement a capacity development strategy under section 1418(c) in the State.

“(B) LIMITATION.—Amounts expended by a State pursuant to this paragraph for any fiscal year may not exceed an amount that is equal to the amount of the grant funds available to the State for that fiscal year under section 1443(a).

“(C) STATE FUNDS.—For any fiscal year, funds may not be expended pursuant to this paragraph unless the Administrator determines that the amount of State funds made available to carry out the public water system supervision program under section 1443(a) for the fiscal year is not less than the amount of State funds made available to carry out the program for fiscal year 1993.

“(b) INTENDED USE PLANS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—After providing for public review and comment, each State that has entered into a capitalization agreement pursuant to this part shall annually prepare a plan that identifies the intended uses of the amounts available to the State loan fund of the State.

“(2) CONTENTS.—An intended use plan shall include—

“(A) a list of the projects to be assisted in the first fiscal year that begins after the date of the plan, including a description of the project, the expected terms of financial assistance, and the size of the community served;

“(B) the criteria and methods established for the distribution of funds; and

“(C) a description of the financial status of the State loan fund and the short-term and long-term goals of the State loan fund.

“(3) USE OF FUNDS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—An intended use plan shall provide, to the maximum extent practicable, that priority for the use of funds be given to projects that—

“(i) address the most serious risk to human health;

“(ii) are necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of this title (including requirements for filtration); and

“(iii) assist systems most in need on a per household basis according to State affordability criteria.

“(B) LIST OF PROJECTS.—Each State shall, after notice and opportunity for public comment, publish and periodically update a list of projects in the State that are eligible for assistance under this part, including the priority assigned to each project and, to the extent known, the expected funding schedule for each project.

“STATE LOAN FUND MANAGEMENT

“SEC. 1475. (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this part, and annually thereafter, the Administrator shall conduct such reviews and audits as the Administrator considers appropriate, or require each State to have the reviews and audits independently conducted, in accordance with the single audit requirements of chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code.

“(b) STATE REPORTS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this part, and every 2 years thereafter, each State that administers a State loan fund shall publish and submit to the Administrator a report on the activities of the State under this part, including the findings of the most recent audit of the State loan fund.

“(c) DRINKING WATER NEEDS SURVEY AND ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this part, and every 4 years thereafter, the Administrator shall submit to Congress a survey and assessment of the needs for facilities in each State eligible for assistance under this part (including, in the case of the State of Alaska, the needs of Native villages (as defined in section 3(c) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602 (c))). The survey and assessment conducted pursuant to this subsection shall—

“(1) identify, by State, the needs for projects or facilities owned or controlled by community water systems eligible for assistance under this part on the date of the assessment (other than refinancing for a project pursuant to section 1473(d)(2));

“(2) estimate the needs for eligible facilities over the 20-year period following the date of the assessment;

“(3) identify, by size category, the population served by public water systems with needs identified pursuant to paragraph (1); and

“(4) include such other information as the Administrator determines to be appropriate.

“(d) EVALUATION.—The Administrator shall conduct an evaluation of the effectiveness of the State loan funds through fiscal year 1999. The evaluation shall be submitted to Congress at the same time as the President submits to Congress, pursuant to section 1108 of title 31, United States Code, an appropriations request for fiscal year 2001 relating to the budget of the Environmental Protection Agency.

“ENFORCEMENT

“SEC. 1476. The failure or inability of any public water system to receive funds under this part or any other loan or grant program, or any delay in obtaining the funds, shall not alter the obligation of the system to comply in a timely manner with all applicable drinking water standards and requirements of this title.

“REGULATIONS AND GUIDANCE

“SEC. 1477. The Administrator shall publish such guidance and promulgate such regula-

tions as are necessary to carry out this part, including guidance and regulations to ensure that—

“(1) each State commits and expends funds from the State loan fund in accordance with the requirements of this part and applicable Federal and State laws; and

“(2) the States and eligible public water systems that receive funds under this part use accounting procedures that conform to generally accepted accounting principles, auditing procedures that conform to chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the ‘Single Audit Act of 1984’), and such fiscal procedures as the Administrator may prescribe.

“AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

“SEC. 1478. (a) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out this part \$600,000,000 for fiscal year 1994 and \$1,000,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1995 through 2003.

“(b) HEALTH EFFECTS RESEARCH.—From funds appropriated pursuant to this section for each fiscal year, the Administrator shall reserve \$10,000,000 for health effects research on drinking water contaminants authorized by section 1442. In allocating funds made available under this subsection, the Administrator shall give priority to research concerning the health effects of cryptosporidium, disinfection byproducts, and arsenic, and the implementation of a research plan for subpopulations at greater risk of adverse effects pursuant to section 1442(l).

“(c) MONITORING FOR UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—From funds appropriated pursuant to this section for each fiscal year beginning with fiscal year 1997, the Administrator shall reserve \$2,000,000 to pay the costs of monitoring for unregulated contaminants under section 1445(a)(2)(D).

“(d) SMALL SYSTEM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), from funds appropriated pursuant to this section for each fiscal year for which the appropriation made pursuant to subsection (a) exceeds \$800,000,000, the Administrator shall reserve to carry out section 1442(g) an amount that is equal to any amount by which the amount made available to carry out section 1442(g) is less than the amount referred to in the third sentence of section 1442(g).

“(2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—For each fiscal year, the amount reserved under paragraph (1) shall be not greater than an amount equal to the lesser of—

“(A) 2 percent of the funds appropriated pursuant to this section for the fiscal year; or

“(B) \$10,000,000.”

SEC. 4. SELECTION OF CONTAMINANTS; SCHEDULE.

(a) STANDARDS.—Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g-1(b)) is amended by striking “(b)(1)” and all that follows through the end of paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(b) STANDARDS.—

“(1) IDENTIFICATION OF CONTAMINANTS FOR LISTING.—

“(A) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The Administrator shall publish a maximum contaminant level goal and promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation for each contaminant (other than a contaminant referred to in paragraph (2) for which a national primary drinking water regulation has been promulgated as of the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995) if the Administrator determines, based on adequate data and appropriate peer-reviewed scientific information and an assessment of health risks, con-

ducted in accordance with sound and objective scientific practices, that—

“(i) the contaminant may have an adverse effect on the health of persons; and

“(ii) the contaminant is known to occur or there is a substantial likelihood that the contaminant will occur in public water systems with a frequency and at levels of public health concern.

“(B) SELECTION AND LISTING OF CONTAMINANTS FOR CONSIDERATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than July 1, 1997, the Administrator (after consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services) shall publish and periodically, but not less often than every 5 years, update a list of contaminants that are known or anticipated to occur in drinking water provided by public water systems and that may warrant regulation under this title.

“(ii) RESEARCH AND STUDY PLAN.—At such time as a list is published under clause (i), the Administrator shall describe available and needed information and research with respect to—

“(I) the health effects of the contaminants;

“(II) the occurrence of the contaminants in drinking water; and

“(III) treatment techniques and other means that may be feasible to control the contaminants.

“(iii) COMMENT.—The Administrator shall seek comment on each list and any research plan that is published from officials of State and local governments, operators of public water systems, the scientific community, and the general public.

“(C) DETERMINATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), not later than July 1, 2001, and every 5 years thereafter, the Administrator shall take one of the following actions for not fewer than 5 contaminants:

“(I) Publish a determination that information available to the Administrator does not warrant the issuance of a national primary drinking water regulation.

“(II) Publish a determination that a national primary drinking water regulation is warranted based on information available to the Administrator, and proceed to propose a maximum contaminant level goal and national primary drinking water regulation not later than 2 years after the date of publication of the determination.

“(III) Propose a maximum contaminant level goal and national primary drinking water regulation.

“(ii) INSUFFICIENT INFORMATION.—If the Administrator determines that available information is insufficient to make a determination for a contaminant under clause (i), the Administrator may publish a determination to continue to study the contaminant. Not later than 5 years after the Administrator determines that further study is necessary for a contaminant pursuant to this clause, the Administrator shall make a determination under clause (i).

“(iii) ASSESSMENT.—The determinations under clause (i) shall be based on an assessment of—

“(I) the available scientific knowledge that is consistent with the requirements of paragraph (3)(A) and useful in determining the nature and extent of adverse effects on the health of persons that may occur due to the presence of the contaminant in drinking water;

“(II) information on the occurrence of the contaminant in drinking water; and

“(III) the treatment technologies, treatment techniques, or other means that may be feasible in reducing the contaminant in drinking water provided by public water systems.

“(iv) PRIORITIES.—In making determinations under this subparagraph, the Administrator shall give priority to those contaminants not currently regulated that are associated with the most serious adverse health effects and that present the greatest potential risk to the health of persons due to the presence of the contaminant in drinking water provided by public water systems.

“(v) REVIEW.—Each document setting forth the determination for a contaminant under clause (i) shall be available for public comment at such time as the determination is published.

“(vi) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Determinations made by the Administrator pursuant to clause (i)(I) shall be considered final agency actions for the purposes of section 1448. No determination under clause (i)(I) shall be set aside by a court pursuant to a review authorized under that section, unless the court finds that the determination is arbitrary and capricious.

“(D) URGENT THREATS TO PUBLIC HEALTH.—The Administrator may promulgate an interim national primary drinking water regulation for a contaminant without listing the contaminant under subparagraph (B) or publishing a determination for the contaminant under subparagraph (C) to address an urgent threat to public health as determined by the Administrator after consultation with and written response to any comments provided by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the director of the National Institutes of Health. A determination for any contaminant in accordance with subparagraph (C) subject to an interim regulation under this subparagraph shall be issued not later than 3 years after the date on which the regulation is promulgated and the regulation shall be repromulgated, or revised if appropriate, not later than 5 years after that date.

“(E) MONITORING DATA AND OTHER INFORMATION.—The Administrator may require, in accordance with section 1445(a)(2), the submission of monitoring data and other information necessary for the development of studies, research plans, or national primary drinking water regulations.

“(2) SCHEDULES AND DEADLINES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of the contaminants listed in the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking published in volume 47, Federal Register, page 9352, and in volume 48, Federal Register, page 4502, the Administrator shall publish maximum contaminant level goals and promulgate national primary drinking water regulations—

“(i) not later than 1 year after June 19, 1986, for not fewer than 9 of the listed contaminants;

“(ii) not later than 2 years after June 19, 1986, for not fewer than 40 of the listed contaminants; and

“(iii) not later than 3 years after June 19, 1986, for the remainder of the listed contaminants.

“(B) SUBSTITUTION OF CONTAMINANTS.—If the Administrator identifies a drinking water contaminant the regulation of which, in the judgment of the Administrator, is more likely to be protective of public health (taking into account the schedule for regulation under subparagraph (A)) than a contaminant referred to in subparagraph (A), the Administrator may publish a maximum contaminant level goal and promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation for the identified contaminant in lieu of regulating the contaminant referred to in subparagraph (A). Substitutions may be made for not more than 7 contaminants referred to in subparagraph (A). Regulation of a contaminant identified under this subparagraph shall be in accordance with the schedule applica-

ble to the contaminant for which the substitution is made.

“(C) DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS.—

“(i) INFORMATION COLLECTION RULE.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Not later than December 31, 1995, the Administrator shall, after notice and opportunity for public comment, promulgate an information collection rule to obtain information that will facilitate further revisions to the national primary drinking water regulation for disinfectants and disinfection byproducts, including information on microbial contaminants such as cryptosporidium.

“(II) EXTENSION.—The Administrator may extend the deadline under subclause (I) for up to 180 days if the Administrator determines that progress toward approval of an appropriate analytical method to screen for cryptosporidium is sufficiently advanced and approval is likely to be completed within the additional time period.

“(ii) ADDITIONAL DEADLINES.—The time intervals between promulgation of a final information collection rule, an Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule, a Final Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule, a Stage I Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule, and a Stage II Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule shall be in accordance with the schedule published in volume 59, Federal Register, page 6361 (February 10, 1994), in table III.13 of the proposed Information Collection Rule. If a delay occurs with respect to the promulgation of any rule in the timetable established by this subparagraph, all subsequent rules shall be completed as expeditiously as practicable subject to agreement by all the parties to the negotiated rulemaking, but no later than a revised date that reflects the interval or intervals for the rules in the timetable.

“(D) PRIOR REQUIREMENTS.—The requirements of subparagraphs (C) and (D) of section 1412(b)(3) (as in effect before the amendment made by section 4(a) of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995), and any obligation to promulgate regulations pursuant to such subparagraphs not promulgated as of the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995, are superseded by this paragraph and paragraph (1).”

“(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 1412(a)(3) (42 U.S.C. 300g-1(a)(3)) is amended by striking “paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (b)” each place it appears and inserting “paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (b)”.

(2) Section 1415(d) (42 U.S.C. 300g-4(d)) is amended by striking “section 1412(b)(3)” and inserting “section 1412(b)(7)(A)”.

SEC. 5. RISK ASSESSMENT, MANAGEMENT, AND COMMUNICATION.

Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g-1(b)) (as amended by section 4) is further amended by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) RISK ASSESSMENT, MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION.—

“(A) USE OF SCIENCE IN DECISIONMAKING.—In carrying out this section, and, to the degree that an Agency action is based on science in carrying out this title, the Administrator shall use—

“(i) the best available, peer-reviewed science and supporting studies conducted in accordance with sound and objective scientific practices; and

“(ii) data collected by accepted methods or best available methods (if the reliability of the method and the nature of the decision justifies use of the data).

“(B) PUBLIC INFORMATION.—In carrying out this section, the Administrator shall ensure that the presentation of information on public health effects is comprehensive, inform-

ative and understandable. The Administrator shall, in a document made available to the public in support of a regulation promulgated under this section, specify, to the extent practicable—

“(i) each population addressed by any estimate of public health effects;

“(ii) the expected risk or central estimate of risk for the specific populations;

“(iii) each appropriate upper-bound or lower-bound estimate of risk;

“(iv) each uncertainty identified in the process of the assessment of public health effects and research that would assist in resolving the uncertainty; and

“(v) peer-reviewed studies known to the Administrator that support, are directly relevant to, or fail to support any estimate of public health effects and the methodology used to reconcile inconsistencies in the scientific data.

“(C) HEALTH RISK REDUCTION AND COST ANALYSIS.—

“(i) MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVELS.—Not later than 90 days prior to proposing any national primary drinking water regulation that includes a maximum contaminant level, the Administrator shall, with respect to a maximum contaminant level that would be considered in accordance with paragraph (4) in a proposed regulation and each alternative maximum contaminant level that would be considered in a proposed regulation pursuant to paragraph (5) or (6)(A), publish, seek public comment on, and use for the purposes of paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) an analysis of—

“(I) the health risk reduction benefits (including non-quantifiable health benefits identified and described by the Administrator, except that such benefits shall not be used by the Administrator for purposes of determining whether a maximum contaminant level is or is not justified unless there is a factual basis in the rulemaking record to conclude that such benefits are likely to occur) expected as the result of treatment to comply with each level;

“(II) the health risk reduction benefits (including non-quantifiable health benefits identified and described by the Administrator, except that such benefits shall not be used by the Administrator for purposes of determining whether a maximum contaminant level is or is not justified unless there is a factual basis in the rulemaking record to conclude that such benefits are likely to occur) expected from reductions in co-occurring contaminants that may be attributed solely to compliance with the maximum contaminant level, excluding benefits resulting from compliance with other proposed or promulgated regulations;

“(III) the costs (including non-quantifiable costs identified and described by the Administrator, except that such costs shall not be used by the Administrator for purposes of determining whether a maximum contaminant level is or is not justified unless there is a factual basis in the rulemaking record to conclude that such costs are likely to occur) expected solely as a result of compliance with the maximum contaminant level, including monitoring, treatment, and other costs and excluding costs resulting from compliance with other proposed or promulgated regulations;

“(IV) the incremental costs and benefits associated with each alternative maximum contaminant level considered;

“(V) the effects of the contaminant on the general population and on groups within the general population such as infants, children, pregnant women, the elderly, individuals with a history of serious illness, or other subpopulations that are identified as likely to be at greater risk of adverse health effects

due to exposure to contaminants in drinking water than the general population;

“(VI) any increased health risk that may occur as the result of compliance, including risks associated with co-occurring contaminants; and

“(VII) other relevant factors, including the quality and extent of the information, the uncertainties in the analysis supporting subclauses (I) through (VI), and factors with respect to the degree and nature of the risk.

“(ii) TREATMENT TECHNIQUES.—Not later than 90 days prior to proposing a national primary drinking water regulation that includes a treatment technique in accordance with paragraph (7)(A), the Administrator shall publish and seek public comment on an analysis of the health risk reduction benefits and costs likely to be experienced as the result of compliance with the treatment technique and alternative treatment techniques that would be considered in a proposed regulation, taking into account, as appropriate, the factors described in clause (i).

“(iii) APPROACHES TO MEASURE AND VALUE BENEFITS.—The Administrator may identify valid approaches for the measurement and valuation of benefits under this subparagraph, including approaches to identify consumer willingness to pay for reductions in health risks from drinking water contaminants.

“(iv) FORM OF NOTICE.—Whenever a national primary drinking water regulation is expected to result in compliance costs greater than \$75,000,000 per year, the Administrator shall provide the notice required by clause (i) or (ii) through an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking.

“(v) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator, acting through the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water, to conduct studies, assessments, and analyses in support of regulations or the development of methods, \$35,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1996 through 2003.”.

SEC. 6. STANDARD-SETTING; REVIEW OF STANDARDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g-1(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by striking “(4) Each” and inserting the following:

“(4) GOALS AND STANDARDS.—

“(A) MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOALS.—Each”;

(B) in subparagraph (A) (as so designated), by inserting after the first sentence the following: “The maximum contaminant level goal for contaminants that are known or likely to cause cancer in humans may be set at a level other than zero, if the Administrator determines, based on the best available, peer-reviewed science, that there is a threshold level below which there is unlikely to be any increase in cancer risk and the Administrator sets the maximum contaminant level goal at that level with an adequate margin of safety.”;

(C) in the last sentence—

(i) by striking “Each national” and inserting the following:

“(B) MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVELS.— Except as provided in paragraphs (5) and (6), each national”;

(ii) by striking “maximum level” and inserting “maximum contaminant level”;

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) DETERMINATION.—At the time the Administrator proposes a national primary drinking water regulation under this paragraph, the Administrator shall publish a determination as to whether the benefits of the maximum contaminant level justify, or do not justify, the costs based on the analysis conducted under paragraph (3)(C).”;

(2) by striking “(5) For the” and inserting the following:

“(D) DEFINITION OF FEASIBLE.—For the”;

(3) in the second sentence of paragraph (4)(D) (as so designated), by striking “paragraph (4)” and inserting “this paragraph”;

(4) by striking “(6) Each national” and inserting the following:

“(E) FEASIBLE TECHNOLOGIES.—Each national”;

(5) in paragraph (4)(E) (as so designated), by striking “this paragraph” and inserting “this subsection”;

(6) by inserting after paragraph (4) (as so amended) the following:

“(5) ADDITIONAL HEALTH RISK CONSIDERATIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding paragraph (4), the Administrator may establish a maximum contaminant level for a contaminant at a level other than the feasible level, if the technology, treatment techniques, and other means used to determine the feasible level would result in an increase in the health risk from drinking water by—

“(i) increasing the concentration of other contaminants in drinking water; or

“(ii) interfering with the efficacy of drinking water treatment techniques or processes that are used to comply with other national primary drinking water regulations.

“(B) ESTABLISHMENT OF LEVEL.—If the Administrator establishes a maximum contaminant level or levels or requires the use of treatment techniques for any contaminant or contaminants pursuant to the authority of this paragraph—

“(i) the level or levels or treatment techniques shall minimize the overall risk of adverse health effects by balancing the risk from the contaminant and the risk from other contaminants the concentrations of which may be affected by the use of a treatment technique or process that would be employed to attain the maximum contaminant level or levels; and

“(ii) the combination of technology, treatment techniques, or other means required to meet the level or levels shall not be more stringent than is feasible (as defined in paragraph (4)(D)).

“(6) ADDITIONAL HEALTH RISK REDUCTION AND COST CONSIDERATIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding paragraph (4), if the Administrator determines based on an analysis conducted under paragraph (3)(C) that the benefits of a maximum contaminant level promulgated in accordance with paragraph (4) would not justify the costs of complying with the level, the Administrator may, after notice and opportunity for public comment, promulgate a maximum contaminant level for the contaminant that maximizes health risk reduction benefits at a cost that is justified by the benefits.

“(B) EXCEPTION.—The Administrator shall not use the authority of this paragraph to promulgate a maximum contaminant level for a contaminant, if the benefits of compliance with a national primary drinking water regulation for the contaminant that would be promulgated in accordance with paragraph (4) experienced by—

“(i) persons served by large public water systems; and

“(ii) persons served by such other systems as are unlikely, based on information provided by the States, to receive a variance under section 1415(e);

would justify the costs to the systems of complying with the regulation. This subparagraph shall not apply if the contaminant is found almost exclusively in small systems (as defined in section 1415(e)).

“(C) DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS.—The Administrator may not use the authority of this paragraph to establish

a maximum contaminant level in a Stage I or Stage II national primary drinking water regulation for contaminants that are disinfectants or disinfection byproducts (as described in paragraph (2)), or to establish a maximum contaminant level or treatment technique requirement for the control of cryptosporidium. The authority of this paragraph may be used to establish regulations for the use of disinfection by systems relying on ground water sources as required by paragraph (8).

“(D) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—A determination by the Administrator that the benefits of a maximum contaminant level or treatment requirement justify or do not justify the costs of complying with the level shall be reviewed by the court pursuant to section 1448 only as part of a review of a final national primary drinking water regulation that has been promulgated based on the determination and shall not be set aside by the court under that section, unless the court finds that the determination is arbitrary and capricious.”.

(b) DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may use the authority of section 1412(b)(5) of the Public Health Service Act (as amended by subsection (a)) to promulgate the Stage I rulemaking for disinfectants and disinfection byproducts as proposed in volume 59, Federal Register, page 38668 (July 29, 1994). Unless new information warrants a modification of the proposal as provided for in the “Disinfection and Disinfection Byproducts Negotiated Rulemaking Committee Agreement”, nothing in such section shall be construed to require the Administrator to modify the provisions of the rulemaking as proposed.

(c) REVIEW OF STANDARDS.—Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g-1(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (9) and inserting the following:

“(9) REVIEW AND REVISION.—The Administrator shall, not less often than every 6 years, review and revise, as appropriate, each national primary drinking water regulation promulgated under this title. Any revision of a national primary drinking water regulation shall be promulgated in accordance with this section, except that each revision shall maintain or provide for greater protection of the health of persons.”.

SEC. 7. ARSENIC.

Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g-1(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(12) ARSENIC.—

“(A) SCHEDULE AND STANDARD.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2), the Administrator shall promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation for arsenic in accordance with the schedule established by this paragraph and pursuant to this subsection.

“(B) RESEARCH PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator shall develop a comprehensive plan for research in support of drinking water rulemaking to reduce the uncertainty in assessing health risks associated with exposure to low levels of arsenic. The Administrator shall consult with the Science Advisory Board established by section 8 of the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 4365), other Federal agencies, and interested public and private entities.

“(C) RESEARCH PROJECTS.—The Administrator shall carry out the research plan, taking care to avoid duplication of other research in progress. The Administrator may enter into cooperative research agreements with other Federal agencies, State and local governments, and other interested public and private entities to carry out the research plan.

“(D) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 3½ years after the date of enactment of this

paragraph, the Administrator shall review the progress of the research to determine whether the health risks associated with exposure to low levels of arsenic are sufficiently well understood to proceed with a national primary drinking water regulation. The Administrator shall consult with the Science Advisory Board, other Federal agencies, and other interested public and private entities as part of the review.

“(E) PROPOSED REGULATION.—The Administrator shall propose a national primary drinking water regulation for arsenic not later than January 1, 2000.

“(F) FINAL REGULATION.—Not later than January 1, 2001, after notice and opportunity for public comment, the Administrator shall promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation for arsenic.”

SEC. 8. RADON.

Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g-1(b)) (as amended by section 7) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(13) RADON IN DRINKING WATER.—

“(A) REGULATION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2), not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator shall promulgate a national primary drinking water regulation for radon.

“(B) MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the regulation shall provide for a maximum contaminant level for radon of 3,000 picocuries per liter.

“(C) REVISION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), a revision to the regulation promulgated under subparagraph (A) may be made pursuant to this subsection. The revision may include a maximum contaminant level less stringent than 3,000 picocuries per liter as provided in paragraphs (4) and (9) or a maximum contaminant level more stringent than 3,000 picocuries per liter as provided in clause (ii).

“(ii) MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL.—

“(I) CRITERIA FOR REVISION.—The Administrator shall not revise the maximum contaminant level for radon to a more stringent level than the level established under subparagraph (B) unless—

“(aa) the revision is made to reflect consideration of risks from the ingestion of radon in drinking water and episodic uses of drinking water;

“(bb) the revision is supported by peer-reviewed scientific studies conducted in accordance with sound and objective scientific practices; and

“(cc) based on the studies, the National Academy of Sciences and the Science Advisory Board, established by section 8 of the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 4365), consider a revision of the maximum contaminant level to be appropriate.

“(II) AMOUNT OF REVISION.—If the Administrator determines to revise the maximum contaminant level for radon in accordance with subclause (I), the maximum contaminant level shall be revised to a level that is no more stringent than is necessary to reduce risks to human health from radon in drinking water to a level that is equivalent to risks to human health from radon in outdoor air based on the national average concentration of radon in outdoor air.”

SEC. 9. SULFATE.

Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g-1(b)) (as amended by section 8) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(14) SULFATE.—

“(A) ADDITIONAL RESEARCH.—Prior to promulgating a national primary drinking water regulation for sulfate the Administrator and the Director of the Centers for Disease Control shall jointly conduct additional research to establish a reliable dose-

response relationship for the adverse health effects that may result from exposure to sulfate in drinking water, including the health effects that may be experienced by groups within the general population (including infants and travelers) that are potentially at greater risk of adverse health effects as the result of such exposure. The research shall be conducted in consultation with interested States, shall be based on the best available, peer-reviewed science and supporting studies conducted in accordance with sound and objective scientific practices and shall be completed not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this paragraph.

“(B) PROPOSED AND FINAL RULE.—Prior to promulgating a national primary drinking water regulation for sulfate and after consultation with interested States, the Administrator shall publish a notice of proposed rulemaking that shall supersede the proposal published in December, 1994. For purposes of the proposed and final rule, the Administrator may specify in the regulation requirements for public notification and options for the provision of alternative water supplies to populations at risk as a means of complying with the regulation in lieu of a best available treatment technology or other means. The Administrator shall, pursuant to the authorities of this subsection and after notice and opportunity for public comment, promulgate a final national primary drinking water regulation for sulfate not later than 48 months after the date of enactment of this paragraph.

“(C) EFFECT ON OTHER LAWS.—

“(i) FEDERAL LAWS.—Notwithstanding part C, section 311 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1321), subtitle C or D of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6921 et seq.), or section 107 or 121(d) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9607 and 9621(d)), no national primary drinking water regulation for sulfate shall be—

“(I) used as a standard for determining compliance with any provision of any law other than this subsection;

“(II) used as a standard for determining appropriate cleanup levels or whether cleanup should be undertaken with respect to any facility or site;

“(III) considered to be an applicable or relevant and appropriate requirement for any such cleanup; or

“(IV) used for the purpose of defining injury to a natural resource; unless the Administrator, by rule and after notice and opportunity for public comment, determines that the regulation is appropriate for a use described in subclause (I), (II), (III), or (IV).

“(ii) STATE LAWS.—This subparagraph shall not affect any requirement of State law, including the applicability of any State standard similar to the regulation published under this paragraph as a standard for any cleanup action, compliance action, or natural resource damage action taken pursuant to such a law.”

SEC. 10. FILTRATION AND DISINFECTION.

(a) FILTRATION CRITERIA.—Section 1412(b)(7)(C)(i) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following: “Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995, the Administrator shall amend the criteria issued under this clause to provide that a State exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems may, on a case-by-case basis, establish treatment requirements as an alternative to filtration in the case of systems having uninhabited, undeveloped watersheds in consolidated ownership, and having control over access to,

and activities in, those watersheds, if the State determines (and the Administrator concurs) that the quality of the source water and the alternative treatment requirements established by the State ensure significantly greater removal efficiencies of pathogenic organisms for which national primary drinking water regulations have been promulgated or that are of public health concern that would be achieved by the combination of filtration and chlorine disinfection (in compliance with this paragraph and paragraph (8)).”

(b) FILTRATION TECHNOLOGY FOR SMALL SYSTEMS.—Section 1412(b)(7)(C) (42 U.S.C. 300g-1(b)(7)(C)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(v) FILTRATION TECHNOLOGY FOR SMALL SYSTEMS.—At the same time as the Administrator proposes an Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule pursuant to paragraph (2)(C)(ii), the Administrator shall propose a regulation that describes treatment techniques that meet the requirements for filtration pursuant to this subparagraph and are feasible for community water systems serving a population of 3,300 or fewer and noncommunity water systems.”

(c) GROUND WATER DISINFECTION.—The first sentence of section 1412(b)(8) (42 U.S.C. 300g-1(b)(8)) is amended—

(I) by striking “Not later than 36 months after the enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1986, the Administrator shall propose and promulgate” and inserting “At any time after the end of the 3-year period that begins on the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995 but not later than the date on which the Administrator promulgates a Stage II rulemaking for disinfectants and disinfection byproducts (as described in paragraph (2)), the Administrator shall also promulgate”; and

(2) by striking the period at the end and inserting the following: “, including surface water systems and, as necessary, ground water systems. After consultation with the States, the Administrator shall (as part of the regulations) promulgate criteria that the Administrator, or a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413, shall apply to determine whether disinfection shall be required as a treatment technique for any public water system served by ground water.”

SEC. 11. EFFECTIVE DATE FOR REGULATIONS.

Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g-1(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (10) and inserting the following:

“(10) EFFECTIVE DATE.—A national primary drinking water regulation promulgated under this section shall take effect on the date that is 3 years after the date on which the regulation is promulgated unless the Administrator determines that an earlier date is practicable, except that the Administrator, or a State in the case of an individual system, may allow up to 2 additional years to comply with a maximum contaminant level or treatment technique if the Administrator or State determines that additional time is necessary for capital improvements.”

SEC. 12. TECHNOLOGY AND TREATMENT TECHNIQUES; TECHNOLOGY CENTERS.

(a) SYSTEM TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES.—Section 1412(b) (42 U.S.C. 300g-1(b)) (as amended by section 9) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(15) SYSTEM TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES.—

“(A) GUIDANCE OR REGULATIONS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—At the same time as the Administrator promulgates a national primary drinking water regulation pursuant to this section, the Administrator shall issue guidance or regulations describing all treatment technologies for the contaminant that

is the subject of the regulation that are feasible with the use of best technology, treatment techniques, or other means that the Administrator finds, after examination for efficacy under field conditions and not solely under laboratory conditions, are available taking cost into consideration for public water systems serving—

“(I) a population of 10,000 or fewer but more than 3,300;

“(II) a population of 3,300 or fewer but more than 500; and

“(III) a population of 500 or fewer but more than 25.

“(ii) CONTENTS.—The guidance or regulations shall identify the effectiveness of the technology, the cost of the technology, and other factors related to the use of the technology, including requirements for the quality of source water to ensure adequate protection of human health, considering removal efficiencies of the technology, and installation and operation and maintenance requirements for the technology.

“(iii) LIMITATION.—The Administrator shall not issue guidance or regulations for a technology under this paragraph unless the technology adequately protects human health, considering the expected useful life of the technology and the source waters available to systems for which the technology is considered to be feasible.

“(B) REGULATIONS AND GUIDANCE.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph and after consultation with the States, the Administrator shall issue guidance or regulations under subparagraph (A) for each national primary drinking water regulation promulgated prior to the date of enactment of this paragraph for which a variance may be granted under section 1415(e). The Administrator may, at any time after a national primary drinking water regulation has been promulgated, issue guidance or regulations describing additional or new or innovative treatment technologies that meet the requirements of subparagraph (A) for public water systems described in subparagraph (A)(i) that are subject to the regulation.

“(C) NO SPECIFIED TECHNOLOGY.—A description under subparagraph (A) of the best technology or other means available shall not be considered to require or authorize that the specified technology or other means be used for the purpose of meeting the requirements of any national primary drinking water regulation.”

(b) TECHNOLOGIES AND TREATMENT TECHNIQUES FOR SMALL SYSTEMS.—Section 1412(b)(4)(E) (as amended by section 6(a)) is further amended by adding at the end the following: “The Administrator shall include in the list any technology, treatment technique, or other means that is feasible for small public water systems serving—

“(i) a population of 10,000 or fewer but more than 3,300;

“(ii) a population of 3,300 or fewer but more than 500; and

“(iii) a population of 500 or fewer but more than 25;

and that achieves compliance with the maximum contaminant level or treatment technique, including packaged or modular systems and point-of-entry or point-of-use treatment units that are owned, controlled and maintained by the public water system or by a person under contract with the public water system to ensure proper operation and maintenance and compliance with the maximum contaminant level and equipped with mechanical warnings to ensure that customers are automatically notified of operational problems. The Administrator shall not include in the list any point-of-use treatment technology, treatment technique, or other means to achieve compliance with a

maximum contaminant level or treatment technique requirement for a microbial contaminant (or an indicator of a microbial contaminant). If the American National Standards Institute has issued product standards applicable to a specific type of point-of-entry or point-of-use treatment device, individual units of that type shall not be accepted for compliance with a maximum contaminant level or treatment technique requirement unless they are independently certified in accordance with such standards.”

(c) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION ON SMALL SYSTEM TECHNOLOGIES.—Section 1445 (42 U.S.C. 300j-4) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION ON SMALL SYSTEM TECHNOLOGIES.—For purposes of paragraphs (4)(E) and (15) of section 1412(b), the Administrator may request information on the characteristics of commercially available treatment systems and technologies, including the effectiveness and performance of the systems and technologies under various operating conditions. The Administrator may specify the form, content, and date by which information shall be submitted by manufacturers, States, and other interested persons for the purpose of considering the systems and technologies in the development of regulations or guidance under paragraph (4)(E) or (15) of section 1412(b).”

(d) SMALL WATER SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY CENTERS.—Section 1442 (42 U.S.C. 300j-1) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h) SMALL PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE CENTERS.—

“(1) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Administrator is authorized to make grants to institutions of higher learning to establish and operate not fewer than 5 small public water system technology assistance centers in the United States.

“(2) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CENTERS.—The responsibilities of the small public water system technology assistance centers established under this subsection shall include the conduct of research, training, and technical assistance relating to the information, performance, and technical needs of small public water systems or public water systems that serve Indian Tribes.

“(3) APPLICATIONS.—Any institution of higher learning interested in receiving a grant under this subsection shall submit to the Administrator an application in such form and containing such information as the Administrator may require by regulation.

“(4) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Administrator shall select recipients of grants under this subsection on the basis of the following criteria:

“(A) The small public water system technology assistance center shall be located in a State that is representative of the needs of the region in which the State is located for addressing the drinking water needs of rural small communities or Indian Tribes.

“(B) The grant recipient shall be located in a region that has experienced problems with rural water supplies.

“(C) There is available to the grant recipient for carrying out this subsection demonstrated expertise in water resources research, technical assistance, and training.

“(D) The grant recipient shall have the capability to provide leadership in making national and regional contributions to the solution of both long-range and intermediate-range rural water system technology management problems.

“(E) The grant recipient shall have a demonstrated interdisciplinary capability with expertise in small public water system technology management and research.

“(F) The grant recipient shall have a demonstrated capability to disseminate the results of small public water system tech-

nology research and training programs through an interdisciplinary continuing education program.

“(G) The projects that the grant recipient proposes to carry out under the grant are necessary and appropriate.

“(H) The grant recipient has regional support beyond the host institution.

“(I) The grant recipient shall include the participation of water resources research institutes established under section 104 of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10303).

“(5) ALASKA.—For purposes of this subsection, the State of Alaska shall be considered to be a region.

“(6) CONSORTIA OF STATES.—At least 2 of the grants under this subsection shall be made to consortia of States with low population densities. In this paragraph, the term ‘consortium of States with low population densities’ means a consortium of States, each State of which has an average population density of less than 12.3 persons per square mile, based on data for 1993 from the Bureau of the Census.

“(7) ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS.—At least one center established under this subsection shall focus primarily on the development and evaluation of new technologies and new combinations of existing technologies that are likely to provide more reliable or lower cost options for providing safe drinking water. This center shall be located in a geographic region of the country with a high density of small systems, at a university with an established record of developing and piloting small treatment technologies in cooperation with industry, States, communities, and water system associations.

“(8) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to make grants under this subsection \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1995 through 2003.”

SEC. 13. VARIANCES AND EXEMPTIONS.

(a) TECHNOLOGY AND TREATMENT TECHNIQUES FOR SYSTEMS ISSUED VARIANCES.—The second sentence of section 1415(a)(1)(A) (42 U.S.C. 300g-4(a)(1)(A)) is amended—

(1) by striking “only be issued to a system after the system’s application of” and inserting “be issued to a system on condition that the system install”; and

(2) by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, and based upon an evaluation satisfactory to the State that indicates that alternative sources of water are not reasonably available to the system”.

(b) EXEMPTIONS.—Section 1416 (42 U.S.C. 300g-5) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) by inserting after “(which may include economic factors)” the following: “, including qualification of the public water system as a system serving a disadvantaged community pursuant to section 1473(e)(1)”; and

(B) by inserting after “treatment technique requirement,” the following: “or to implement measures to develop an alternative source of water supply.”;

(2) in subsection (b)(1)(A)—

(A) by striking “(including increments of progress)” and inserting “(including increments of progress or measures to develop an alternative source of water supply)”; and

(B) by striking “requirement and treatment” and inserting “requirement or treatment”; and

(3) in subsection (b)(2)—

(A) by striking “(except as provided in subparagraph (B))” in subparagraph (A) and all that follows through “3 years after the date of the issuance of the exemption if” in subparagraph (B) and inserting the following: “not later than 3 years after the otherwise applicable compliance date established in section 1412(b)(10).

“(B) No exemption shall be granted unless”;

(B) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking “within the period of such exemption” and inserting “prior to the date established pursuant to section 1412(b)(10)”;

(C) in subparagraph (B)(ii), by inserting after “such financial assistance” the following: “or assistance pursuant to part G, or any other Federal or State program is reasonably likely to be available within the period of the exemption”;

(D) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by striking “500 service connections” and inserting “a population of 3,300”; and

(ii) by inserting “, but not to exceed a total of 6 years,” after “for one or more additional 2-year periods”; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) LIMITATION.—A public water system may not receive an exemption under this section if the system was granted a variance under section 1415(e).”

SEC. 14. SMALL SYSTEMS; TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

(a) SMALL SYSTEM VARIANCES.—Section 1415 (42 U.S.C. 300g-4) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) SMALL SYSTEM VARIANCES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator (or a State with primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems under section 1413) may grant to a public water system serving a population of 10,000 or fewer (referred to in this subsection as a ‘small system’) a variance under this subsection for compliance with a requirement specifying a maximum contaminant level or treatment technique contained in a national primary drinking water regulation, if the variance meets each requirement of this subsection.

“(2) AVAILABILITY OF VARIANCES.—A small system may receive a variance under this subsection if the system installs, operates, and maintains, in accordance with guidance or regulations issued by the Administrator, treatment technology that is feasible for small systems as determined by the Administrator pursuant to section 1412(b)(15).

“(3) CONDITIONS FOR GRANTING VARIANCES.—A variance under this subsection shall be available only to a system—

“(A) that cannot afford to comply, in accordance with affordability criteria established by the Administrator (or the State in the case of a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413), with a national primary drinking water regulation, including compliance through—

“(i) treatment;

“(ii) alternative source of water supply; or

“(iii) restructuring or consolidation (unless the Administrator (or the State in the case of a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) makes a written determination that restructuring or consolidation is not feasible or appropriate based on other specified public policy considerations); and

“(B) for which the Administrator (or the State in the case of a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) determines that the terms of the variance ensure adequate protection of human health, considering the quality of the source water for the system and the removal efficiencies and expected useful life of the treatment technology required by the variance.

“(4) APPLICATIONS.—An application for a variance for a national primary drinking water regulation under this subsection shall be submitted to the Administrator (or the State in the case of a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) not later than the date that is the later of—

“(A) 3 years after the date of enactment of this subsection; or

“(B) 1 year after the compliance date of the national primary drinking water regulation as established under section 1412(b)(10) for which a variance is requested.

“(5) VARIANCE REVIEW AND DECISION.—

“(A) TIMETABLE.—The Administrator (or the State in the case of a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) shall grant or deny a variance not later than 1 year after the date of receipt of the application.

“(B) PENALTY MORATORIUM.—Each public water system that submits a timely application for a variance under this subsection shall not be subject to a penalty in an enforcement action under section 1414 for a violation of a maximum contaminant level or treatment technique in the national primary drinking water regulation with respect to which the variance application was submitted prior to the date of a decision to grant or deny the variance.

“(6) COMPLIANCE SCHEDULES.—

“(A) VARIANCES.—A variance granted under this subsection shall require compliance with the conditions of the variance not later than 3 years after the date on which the variance is granted, except that the Administrator (or the State in the case of a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) may allow up to 2 additional years to comply with a treatment technique, secure an alternative source of water, or restructure if the Administrator (or the State) determines that additional time is necessary for capital improvements, or to allow for financial assistance provided pursuant to part G or any other Federal or State program.

“(B) DENIED APPLICATIONS.—If the Administrator (or the State in the case of a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) denies a variance application under this subsection, the public water system shall come into compliance with the requirements of the national primary drinking water regulation for which the variance was requested not later than 4 years after the date on which the national primary drinking water regulation was promulgated.

“(7) DURATION OF VARIANCES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator (or the State in the case of a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) shall review each variance granted under this subsection not less often than every 5 years after the compliance date established in the variance to determine whether the system remains eligible for the variance and is conforming to each condition of the variance.

“(B) REVOCATION OF VARIANCES.—The Administrator (or the State in the case of a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) shall revoke a variance in effect under this subsection if the Administrator (or the State) determines that—

“(i) the system is no longer eligible for a variance;

“(ii) the system has failed to comply with any term or condition of the variance, other than a reporting or monitoring requirement, unless the failure is caused by circumstances outside the control of the system; or

“(iii) the terms of the variance do not ensure adequate protection of human health, considering the quality of source water available to the system and the removal efficiencies and expected useful life of the treatment technology required by the variance.

“(8) INELIGIBILITY FOR VARIANCES.—A variance shall not be available under this subsection for—

“(A) any maximum contaminant level or treatment technique for a contaminant with respect to which a national primary drinking

water regulation was promulgated prior to January 1, 1986; or

“(B) a national primary drinking water regulation for a microbial contaminant (including a bacterium, virus, or other organism) or an indicator or treatment technique for a microbial contaminant.

“(9) REGULATIONS AND GUIDANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subsection and in consultation with the States, the Administrator shall promulgate regulations for variances to be granted under this subsection. The regulations shall, at a minimum, specify—

“(i) procedures to be used by the Administrator or a State to grant or deny variances, including requirements for notifying the Administrator and consumers of the public water system applying for a variance and requirements for a public hearing on the variance before the variance is granted;

“(ii) requirements for the installation and proper operation of treatment technology that is feasible (pursuant to section 1412(b)(15)) for small systems and the financial and technical capability to operate the treatment system, including operator training and certification;

“(iii) eligibility criteria for a variance for each national primary drinking water regulation, including requirements for the quality of the source water (pursuant to section 1412(b)(15)(A)); and

“(iv) information requirements for variance applications.

“(B) AFFORDABILITY CRITERIA.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995, the Administrator, in consultation with the States and the Rural Utilities Service of the Department of Agriculture, shall publish information to assist the States in developing affordability criteria. The affordability criteria shall be reviewed by the States not less often than every 5 years to determine if changes are needed to the criteria.

“(10) REVIEW BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall periodically review the program of each State that has primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems under section 1413 with respect to variances to determine whether the variances granted by the State comply with the requirements of this subsection. With respect to affordability, the determination of the Administrator shall be limited to whether the variances granted by the State comply with the affordability criteria developed by the State.

“(B) NOTICE AND PUBLICATION.—If the Administrator determines that variances granted by a State are not in compliance with affordability criteria developed by the State and the requirements of this subsection, the Administrator shall notify the State in writing of the deficiencies and make public the determination.

“(C) OBJECTIONS TO VARIANCES.—

“(i) BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.—The Administrator may review and object to any variance proposed to be granted by a State, if the objection is communicated to the State not later than 90 days after the State proposes to grant the variance. If the Administrator objects to the granting of a variance, the Administrator shall notify the State in writing of each basis for the objection and propose a modification to the variance to resolve the concerns of the Administrator. The State shall make the recommended modification or respond in writing to each objection. If the State issues the variance without resolving the concerns of the Administrator, the Administrator may overturn the State

decision to grant the variance if the Administrator determines that the State decision does not comply with this subsection.

“(ii) PETITION BY CONSUMERS.—Not later than 30 days after a State with primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems under section 1413 proposes to grant a variance for a public water system, any person served by the system may petition the Administrator to object to the granting of a variance. The Administrator shall respond to the petition not later than 60 days after the receipt of the petition. The State shall not grant the variance during the 60-day period. The petition shall be based on comments made by the petitioner during public review of the variance by the State.”.

(b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Section 1442(g) (42 U.S.C. 300j-1(g)) is amended—

(1) in the second sentence, by inserting “and multi-State regional technical assistance” after “circuit-rider”; and

(2) by striking the third sentence and inserting the following: “The Administrator shall ensure that funds made available for technical assistance pursuant to this subsection are allocated among the States equally. Each nonprofit organization receiving assistance under this subsection shall consult with the State in which the assistance is to be expended or otherwise made available before using the assistance to undertake activities to carry out this subsection. There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1992 through 2003.”.

SEC. 15. CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT; FINANCE CENTERS.

Part B (42 U.S.C. 300g et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

“SEC. 1418. (a) STATE AUTHORITY FOR NEW SYSTEMS.—Each State shall obtain the legal authority or other means to ensure that all new community water systems and new nontransient, noncommunity water systems commencing operation after October 1, 1998, demonstrate technical, managerial, and financial capacity with respect to each national primary drinking water regulation in effect, or likely to be in effect, on the date of commencement of operations.

“(b) SYSTEMS IN SIGNIFICANT NONCOMPLIANCE.—

“(1) LIST.—Beginning not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, each State shall prepare, periodically update, and submit to the Administrator a list of community water systems and nontransient, noncommunity water systems that have a history of significant noncompliance with this title (as defined in guidelines issued prior to the date of enactment of this section or any revisions of the guidelines that have been made in consultation with the States) and, to the extent practicable, the reasons for noncompliance.

“(2) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this section and as part of the capacity development strategy of the State, each State shall report to the Administrator on the success of enforcement mechanisms and initial capacity development efforts in assisting the public water systems listed under paragraph (1) to improve technical, managerial, and financial capacity.

“(c) CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this section, each State shall develop and implement a strategy to assist public water systems in acquiring and maintaining technical, managerial, and financial capacity.

“(2) CONTENT.—In preparing the capacity development strategy, the State shall con-

sider, solicit public comment on, and include as appropriate—

“(A) the methods or criteria that the State will use to identify and prioritize the public water systems most in need of improving technical, managerial, and financial capacity;

“(B) a description of the institutional, regulatory, financial, tax, or legal factors at the Federal, State, or local level that encourage or impair capacity development;

“(C) a description of how the State will use the authorities and resources of this title or other means to—

“(i) assist public water systems in complying with national primary drinking water regulations;

“(ii) encourage the development of partnerships between public water systems to enhance the technical, managerial, and financial capacity of the systems; and

“(iii) assist public water systems in the training and certification of operators;

“(D) a description of how the State will establish a baseline and measure improvements in capacity with respect to national primary drinking water regulations and State drinking water law; and

“(E) an identification of the persons that have an interest in and are involved in the development and implementation of the capacity development strategy (including all appropriate agencies of Federal, State, and local governments, private and nonprofit public water systems, and public water system customers).

“(3) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which a State first adopts a capacity development strategy under this subsection, and every 3 years thereafter, the head of the State agency that has primary responsibility to carry out this title in the State shall submit to the Governor a report that shall also be available to the public on the efficacy of the strategy and progress made toward improving the technical, managerial, and financial capacity of public water systems in the State.

“(d) FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall support the States in developing capacity development strategies.

“(2) INFORMATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall—

“(i) conduct a review of State capacity development efforts in existence on the date of enactment of this section and publish information to assist States and public water systems in capacity development efforts; and

“(ii) initiate a partnership with States, public water systems, and the public to develop information for States on recommended operator certification requirements.

“(B) PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION.—The Administrator shall publish the information developed through the partnership under subparagraph (A)(ii) not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this section.

“(3) VARIANCES AND EXEMPTIONS.—Based on information obtained under subsection (c)(2)(B), the Administrator shall, as appropriate, modify regulations concerning variances and exemptions for small public water systems to ensure flexibility in the use of the variances and exemptions. Nothing in this paragraph shall be interpreted, construed, or applied to affect or alter the requirements of section 1415 or 1416.

“(4) PROMULGATION OF DRINKING WATER REGULATIONS.—In promulgating a national primary drinking water regulation, the Administrator shall include an analysis of the likely effect of compliance with the regula-

tion on the technical, financial, and managerial capacity of public water systems.

“(5) GUIDANCE FOR NEW SYSTEMS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall publish guidance developed in consultation with the States describing legal authorities and other means to ensure that all new community water systems and new nontransient, noncommunity water systems demonstrate technical, managerial, and financial capacity with respect to national primary drinking water regulations.

“(e) ENVIRONMENTAL FINANCE CENTERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall support the network of university-based Environmental Finance Centers in providing training and technical assistance to State and local officials in developing capacity of public water systems.

“(2) NATIONAL CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT CLEARINGHOUSE.—Within the Environmental Finance Center network in existence on the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator shall establish a national public water systems capacity development clearinghouse to receive, coordinate, and disseminate research and reports on projects funded under this title and from other sources with respect to developing, improving, and maintaining technical, financial, and managerial capacity at public water systems to Federal and State agencies, universities, water suppliers, and other interested persons.

“(3) CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT TECHNIQUES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Environmental Finance Centers shall develop and test managerial, financial, and institutional techniques—

“(i) to ensure that new public water systems have the technical, managerial, and financial capacity before commencing operation;

“(ii) to identify public water systems in need of capacity development; and

“(iii) to bring public water systems with a history of significant noncompliance with national primary drinking water regulations into compliance.

“(B) TECHNIQUES.—The techniques may include capacity assessment methodologies, manual and computer-based public water system rate models and capital planning models, public water system consolidation procedures, and regionalization models.

“(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out subsection (e) \$2,500,000 for each of fiscal years 1995 through 2003.”.

SEC. 16. OPERATOR AND LABORATORY CERTIFICATION.

Section 1442 (42 U.S.C. 300j-1) is amended by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e) CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS AND LABORATORIES.—

“(1) REQUIREMENT.—Beginning 3 years after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995—

“(A) no assistance may be provided to a public water system under part G unless the system has entered into an enforceable commitment with the State providing that any person who operates the system will be trained and certified according to requirements established by the Administrator or the State (in the case of a State with primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) not later than the date of completion of the capital project for which the assistance is provided; and

“(B) a public water system that has received assistance under part G may be operated only by a person who has been trained and certified according to requirements established by the Administrator or the State (in the case of a State with primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413).

“(2) GUIDELINES.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995 and after consultation with the States, the Administrator shall publish information to assist States in carrying out paragraph (1). In the case of a State with primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413 or any other State that has established a training program that is consistent with the guidance issued under this paragraph, the authority to prescribe the appropriate level of training for certification for all systems shall be solely the responsibility of the State. The guidance issued under this paragraph shall also include information to assist States in certifying laboratories engaged in testing for the purpose of compliance with sections 1445 and 1401(1).

“(3) NONCOMPLIANCE.—If a public water system in a State is not operated in accordance with paragraph (1), the Administrator is authorized to withhold from funds that would otherwise be allocated to the State under section 1472 or require the repayment of an amount equal to the amount of any assistance under part G provided to the public water system.”

SEC. 17. SOURCE WATER QUALITY PROTECTION PARTNERSHIPS.

Part B (42 U.S.C. 300g et seq.) (as amended by section 15) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“SOURCE WATER QUALITY PROTECTION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

“SEC. 1419. (a) SOURCE WATER AREA DELINEATIONS.—Except as provided in subsection (c), not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this section, and after an opportunity for public comment, each State shall—

“(1) delineate (directly or through delegation) the source water protection areas for community water systems in the State using hydrogeologic information considered to be reasonably available and appropriate by the State; and

“(2) conduct, to the extent practicable, vulnerability assessments in source water areas determined to be a priority by the State, including, to the extent practicable, identification of risks in source water protection areas to drinking water.

“(b) ALTERNATIVE DELINEATIONS AND VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS.—For the purposes of satisfying the requirements of subsection (a), a State may use delineations and vulnerability assessments conducted for—

“(1) ground water sources under a State wellhead protection program developed pursuant to section 1428;

“(2) surface or ground water sources under a State pesticide management plan developed pursuant to the Pesticide and Ground Water State Management Plan Regulation (subparts I and J of part 152 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations), promulgated under section 3(d) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136a(d)); or

“(3) surface water sources under a State watershed initiative or to satisfy the watershed criterion for determining if filtration is required under the Surface Water Treatment Rule (section 141.70 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations).

“(c) FUNDING.—To carry out the delineations and assessments described in subsection (a), a State may use funds made available for that purpose pursuant to section 1473(f). If funds available under that section are insufficient to meet the minimum requirements of subsection (a), the State shall establish a priority-based schedule for the delineations and assessments within available resources.

“(d) PETITION PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—

“(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—A State may establish a program under which an owner or operator of a community water system in the State, or a municipal or local government or political subdivision of a government in the State, may submit a source water quality protection partnership petition to the State requesting that the State assist in the local development of a voluntary, incentive-based partnership, among the owner, operator, or government and other persons likely to be affected by the recommendations of the partnership, to—

“(i) reduce the presence in drinking water of contaminants that may be addressed by a petition by considering the origins of the contaminants, including to the maximum extent practicable the specific activities that affect the drinking water supply of a community;

“(ii) obtain financial or technical assistance necessary to facilitate establishment of a partnership, or to develop and implement recommendations of a partnership for the protection of source water to assist in the provision of drinking water that complies with national primary drinking water regulations with respect to contaminants addressed by a petition; and

“(iii) develop recommendations regarding voluntary and incentive-based strategies for the long-term protection of the source water of community water systems.

“(B) STATE DETERMINATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, each State shall provide public notice and solicit public comment on the question of whether to develop a source water quality protection partnership petition program in the State, and publicly announce the determination of the State thereafter. If so requested by any public water system or local governmental entity, prior to making the determination, the State shall hold at least one public hearing to assess the level of interest in the State for development and implementation of a State source water quality partnership petition program.

“(C) FUNDING.—Each State may—

“(i) use funds set aside pursuant to section 1473(f) by the State to carry out a program described in subparagraph (A), including assistance to voluntary local partnerships for the development and implementation of partnership recommendations for the protection of source water such as source water quality assessment, contingency plans, and demonstration projects for partners within a source water area delineated under subsection (a); and

“(ii) provide assistance in response to a petition submitted under this subsection using funds referred to in subsections (e)(2)(B) and (g).

“(2) OBJECTIVES.—The objectives of a petition submitted under this subsection shall be to—

“(A) facilitate the local development of voluntary, incentive-based partnerships among owners and operators of community water systems, governments, and other persons in source water areas; and

“(B) obtain assistance from the State in directing or redirecting resources under Federal or State water quality programs to implement the recommendations of the partnerships to address the origins of drinking water contaminants that may be addressed by a petition (including to the maximum extent practicable the specific activities) that affect the drinking water supply of a community.

“(3) CONTAMINANTS ADDRESSED BY A PETITION.—A petition submitted to a State under this section may address only those contaminants—

“(A) that are pathogenic organisms for which a national primary drinking water regulation has been established or is required under section 1412(b)(2)(C); or

“(B) for which a national primary drinking water regulation has been promulgated or proposed and—

“(i) that are detected in the community water system for which the petition is submitted at levels above the maximum contaminant level; or

“(ii) that are detected by adequate monitoring methods at levels that are not reliably and consistently below the maximum contaminant level.

“(4) CONTENTS.—A petition submitted under this subsection shall, at a minimum—

“(A) include a delineation of the source water area in the State that is the subject of the petition;

“(B) identify, to the maximum extent practicable, the origins of the drinking water contaminants that may be addressed by a petition (including to the maximum extent practicable the specific activities contributing to the presence of the contaminants) in the source water area delineated under subparagraph (A);

“(C) identify any deficiencies in information that will impair the development of recommendations by the voluntary local partnership to address drinking water contaminants that may be addressed by a petition;

“(D) specify the efforts made to establish the voluntary local partnership and obtain the participation of—

“(i) the municipal or local government or other political subdivision of the State with jurisdiction over the source water area delineated under subparagraph (A); and

“(ii) each person in the source water area delineated under subparagraph (A)—

“(I) who is likely to be affected by recommendations of the voluntary local partnership; and

“(II) whose participation is essential to the success of the partnership;

“(E) outline how the voluntary local partnership has or will, during development and implementation of recommendations of the voluntary local partnership, identify, recognize and take into account any voluntary or other activities already being undertaken by persons in the source water area delineated under subparagraph (A) under Federal or State law to reduce the likelihood that contaminants will occur in drinking water at levels of public health concern; and

“(F) specify the technical, financial, or other assistance that the voluntary local partnership requests of the State to develop the partnership or to implement recommendations of the partnership.

“(e) APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF PETITIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—After providing notice and an opportunity for public comment on a petition submitted under subsection (d), the State shall approve or disapprove the petition, in whole or in part, not later than 120 days after the date of submission of the petition.

“(2) APPROVAL.—The State may approve a petition if the petition meets the requirements established under subsection (d). The notice of approval shall, at a minimum, include—

“(A) an identification of technical, financial, or other assistance that the State will provide to assist in addressing the drinking water contaminants that may be addressed by a petition based on—

“(i) the relative priority of the public health concern identified in the petition with respect to the other water quality needs identified by the State;

“(ii) any necessary coordination that the State will perform of the program established under this section with programs implemented or planned by other States under this section; and

“(iii) funds available (including funds available from a State revolving loan fund established under title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1381 et seq.) or part G and the appropriate distribution of the funds to assist in implementing the recommendations of the partnership;

“(B) a description of technical or financial assistance pursuant to Federal and State programs that is available to assist in implementing recommendations of the partnership in the petition, including—

“(i) any program established under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.);

“(ii) the program established under section 6217 of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 1455b);

“(iii) the agricultural water quality protection program established under chapter 2 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838 et seq.);

“(iv) the sole source aquifer protection program established under section 1427;

“(v) the community wellhead protection program established under section 1428;

“(vi) any pesticide or ground water management plan;

“(vii) any voluntary agricultural resource management plan or voluntary whole farm or whole ranch management plan developed and implemented under a process established by the Secretary of Agriculture; and

“(viii) any abandoned well closure program; and

“(C) a description of activities that will be undertaken to coordinate Federal and State programs to respond to the petition.

“(3) DISAPPROVAL.—If the State disapproves a petition submitted under subsection (d), the State shall notify the entity submitting the petition in writing of the reasons for disapproval. A petition may be resubmitted at any time if—

“(A) new information becomes available;

“(B) conditions affecting the source water that is the subject of the petition change; or

“(C) modifications are made in the type of assistance being requested.

“(f) ELIGIBILITY FOR WATER QUALITY PROTECTION ASSISTANCE.—A sole source aquifer plan developed under section 1427, a wellhead protection plan developed under section 1428, and a source water quality protection measure assisted in response to a petition submitted under subsection (d) shall be eligible for assistance under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.), including assistance provided under section 319 and title VI of such Act (33 U.S.C. 1329 and 1381 et seq.), if the project, measure, or practice would be eligible for assistance under such Act. In the case of funds made available under such section 319 to assist a source water quality protection measure in response to a petition submitted under subsection (d), the funds may be used only for a measure that addresses nonpoint source pollution.

“(g) GRANTS TO SUPPORT STATE PROGRAMS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may make a grant to each State that establishes a program under this section that is approved under paragraph (2). The amount of each grant shall not exceed 50 percent of the cost of administering the program for the year in which the grant is available.

“(2) APPROVAL.—In order to receive grant assistance under this subsection, a State shall submit to the Administrator for approval a plan for a source water quality pro-

tection partnership program that is consistent with the guidance published under paragraph (3). The Administrator shall approve the plan if the plan is consistent with the guidance published under paragraph (3).

“(3) GUIDANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Administrator, in consultation with the States, shall publish guidance to assist—

“(i) States in the development of a source water quality protection partnership program; and

“(ii) municipal or local governments or political subdivisions of the governments and community water systems in the development of source water quality protection partnerships and in the assessment of source water quality.

“(B) CONTENTS OF THE GUIDANCE.—The guidance shall, at a minimum—

“(i) recommend procedures for the approval or disapproval by a State of a petition submitted under subsection (d);

“(ii) recommend procedures for the submission of petitions developed under subsection (d);

“(iii) recommend criteria for the assessment of source water areas within a State;

“(iv) describe technical or financial assistance pursuant to Federal and State programs that is available to address the contamination of sources of drinking water and to develop and respond to petitions submitted under subsection (d); and

“(v) specify actions taken by the Administrator to ensure the coordination of the programs referred to in clause (iv) with the goals and objectives of this title to the maximum extent practicable.

“(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection such sums as are necessary for fiscal years 1995 through 2003. Each State with a plan for a program approved under paragraph (2) shall receive an equitable portion of the funds available for any fiscal year.

“(h) STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section—

“(1)(A) creates or conveys new authority to a State, political subdivision of a State, or community water system for any new regulatory measure; or

“(B) limits any authority of a State, political subdivision, or community water system; or

“(2) precludes a community water system, municipal or local government, or political subdivision of a government from locally developing and carrying out a voluntary, incentive-based, source water quality protection partnership to address the origins of drinking water contaminants of public health concern.”.

SEC. 18. STATE PRIMACY; STATE FUNDING.

(a) STATE PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT RESPONSIBILITY.—Section 1413 (42 U.S.C. 300g-2) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) has adopted drinking water regulations that are no less stringent than the national primary drinking water regulations promulgated by the Administrator under section 1412 not later than 2 years after the date on which the regulations are promulgated by the Administrator except that the Administrator may provide for an extension of not more than 2 years if, after submission and review of appropriate, adequate documentation from the State, the Administrator determines that the extension is necessary and justified;”;

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(c) INTERIM PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.—A State that has primary enforce-

ment authority under this section with respect to each existing national primary drinking water regulation shall be considered to have primary enforcement authority with respect to each new or revised national primary drinking water regulation during the period beginning on the effective date of a regulation adopted and submitted by the State with respect to the new or revised national primary drinking water regulation in accordance with subsection (b)(1) and ending at such time as the Administrator makes a determination under subsection (b)(2) with respect to the regulation.”.

(b) PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM SUPERVISION PROGRAM.—Section 1443(a) (42 U.S.C. 300j-2(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking “(3) A grant” and inserting the following:

“(3) AMOUNT OF GRANT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A grant”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) DETERMINATION OF COSTS.—To determine the costs of a grant recipient pursuant to this paragraph, the Administrator shall, in cooperation with the States and not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, establish a resource model for the public water system supervision program and review and revise the model as necessary.

“(C) STATE COST ADJUSTMENTS.—The Administrator shall revise cost estimates used in the resource model for any particular State to reflect costs more likely to be experienced in that State, if—

“(i) the State requests the modification; and

“(ii) the revised estimates ensure full and effective administration of the public water system supervision program in the State and the revised estimates do not overstate the resources needed to administer the program.”;

(2) in paragraph (7), by adding at the end a period and the following:

“For the purpose of making grants under paragraph (1), there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary for each of fiscal years 1992 and 1993 and \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1994 through 2003.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(8) RESERVATION OF FUNDS BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.—If the Administrator assumes the primary enforcement responsibility of a State public water system supervision program, the Administrator may reserve from funds made available pursuant to this subsection, an amount equal to the amount that would otherwise have been provided to the State pursuant to this subsection. The Administrator shall use the funds reserved pursuant to this paragraph to ensure the full and effective administration of a public water system supervision program in the State.

“(9) STATE LOAN FUNDS.—

“(A) RESERVATION OF FUNDS.—For any fiscal year for which the amount made available to the Administrator by appropriations to carry out this subsection is less than the amount that the Administrator determines is necessary to supplement funds made available pursuant to paragraph (8) to ensure the full and effective administration of a public water system supervision program in a State (based on the resource model developed under paragraph (3)(B)), the Administrator may reserve from the funds made available to the State under section 1472 an amount that is equal to the amount of the shortfall.

“(B) DUTY OF ADMINISTRATOR.—If the Administrator reserves funds from the allocation of a State under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall carry out in the State—

“(i) each of the activities that would be required of the State if the State had primary enforcement authority under section 1413; and

“(ii) each of the activities required of the State by this title, other than part C, but not made a condition of the authority.”.

SEC. 19. MONITORING AND INFORMATION GATHERING.

(a) REGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—

(1) REVIEW OF EXISTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 1445(a)(1) (42 U.S.C. 300j-4(a)(1)) is amended—

(A) by designating the first and second sentences as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(C) REVIEW.—The Administrator shall not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, after consultation with public health experts, representatives of the general public, and officials of State and local governments, review the monitoring requirements for not fewer than 12 contaminants identified by the Administrator, and promulgate any necessary modifications.”.

(2) ALTERNATIVE MONITORING PROGRAMS.—Section 1445(a)(1) (42 U.S.C. 300j-4(a)(1)) (as amended by paragraph (1)(B)) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(D) STATE-ESTABLISHED REQUIREMENTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Each State with primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413 may, by rule, establish alternative monitoring requirements for any national primary drinking water regulation, other than a regulation applicable to a microbial contaminant (or an indicator of a microbial contaminant). The alternative monitoring requirements established by a State under this clause may not take effect for any national primary drinking water regulation until after completion of at least 1 full cycle of monitoring in the State satisfying the requirements of paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 1413(a). The alternative monitoring requirements may be applicable to public water systems or classes of public water systems identified by the State, in lieu of the monitoring requirements that would otherwise be applicable under the regulation, if the alternative monitoring requirements—

“(I) are based on use of the best available science conducted in accordance with sound and objective scientific practices and data collected by accepted methods;

“(II) are based on the potential for the contaminant to occur in the source water based on use patterns and other relevant characteristics of the contaminant or the systems subject to the requirements;

“(III) in the case of a public water system or class of public water systems in which a contaminant has been detected at quantifiable levels that are not reliably and consistently below the maximum contaminant level, include monitoring frequencies that are not less frequent than the frequencies required in the national primary drinking water regulation for the contaminant for a period of 5 years after the detection; and

“(IV) in the case of each contaminant formed in the distribution system, are not applicable to public water systems for which treatment is necessary to comply with the national primary drinking water regulation.

“(ii) COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT.—The alternative monitoring requirements established by the State shall be adequate to ensure compliance with, and enforcement of, each national primary drinking water regulation. The State may review and update the alternative monitoring requirements as necessary.

“(iii) APPLICATION OF SECTION 1413.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Each State establishing alternative monitoring requirements under

this subparagraph shall submit the rule to the Administrator as provided in section 1413(b)(1). Any requirements for a State to provide information supporting a submission shall be defined only in consultation with the States, and shall address only such information as is necessary to make a decision to approve or disapprove an alternative monitoring rule in accordance with the following sentence. The Administrator shall approve an alternative monitoring rule submitted under this clause for the purposes of section 1413, unless the Administrator determines in writing that the State rule for alternative monitoring does not ensure compliance with, and enforcement of, the national primary drinking water regulation for the contaminant or contaminants to which the rule applies.

“(II) EXCEPTIONS.—The requirements of section 1413(a)(1) that a rule be no less stringent than the national primary drinking water regulation for the contaminant or contaminants to which the rule applies shall not apply to the decision of the Administrator to approve or disapprove a rule submitted under this clause. Notwithstanding the requirements of section 1413(b)(2), the Administrator shall approve or disapprove a rule submitted under this clause within 180 days of submission. In the absence of a determination to disapprove a rule made by the Administrator within 180 days, the rule shall be deemed to be approved under section 1413(b)(2).

“(III) ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS.—A State shall be considered to have primary enforcement authority with regard to an alternative monitoring rule, and the rule shall be effective, on a date (determined by the State) any time on or after submission of the rule, consistent with section 1413(c). A decision by the Administrator to disapprove an alternative monitoring rule under section 1413 or to withdraw the authority of the State to carry out the rule under clause (iv) may not be the basis for withdrawing primary enforcement responsibility for a national primary drinking water regulation or regulations from the State under section 1413.

“(iv) OVERSIGHT BY THE ADMINISTRATOR.—The Administrator shall review, not less often than every 5 years, any alternative monitoring requirements established by a State under clause (i) to determine whether the requirements are adequate to ensure compliance with, and enforcement of, national primary drinking water regulations. If the Administrator determines that the alternative monitoring requirements of a State are inadequate with respect to a contaminant, and after providing the State with an opportunity to respond to the determination of the Administrator and to correct any inadequacies, the Administrator may withdraw the authority of the State to carry out the alternative monitoring requirements with respect to the contaminant. If the Administrator withdraws the authority, the monitoring requirements contained in the national primary drinking water regulation for the contaminant shall apply to public water systems in the State.

“(v) NONPRIMACY STATES.—The Governor of any State that does not have primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413 on the date of enactment of this clause may submit to the Administrator a request that the Administrator modify the monitoring requirements established by the Administrator and applicable to public water systems in that State. After consultation with the Governor, the Administrator shall modify the requirements for public water systems in that State if the request of the Governor is in accordance with each of the requirements of this subparagraph that apply to alternative

monitoring requirements established by States that have primary enforcement responsibility. A decision by the Administrator to approve a request under this clause shall be for a period of 3 years and may subsequently be extended for periods of 5 years.

“(vi) GUIDANCE.—The Administrator shall issue guidance in consultation with the States that States may use to develop State-established requirements pursuant to this subparagraph and subparagraph (E). The guidance shall identify options for alternative monitoring designs that meet the criteria identified in clause (i) and the requirements of clause (ii).”.

(3) SMALL SYSTEM MONITORING.—Section 1445(a)(1) (42 U.S.C. 300j-4(a)(1)) (as amended by paragraph (2)) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(E) SMALL SYSTEM MONITORING.—The Administrator or a State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413 may modify the monitoring requirements for any contaminant, other than a microbial contaminant or an indicator of a microbial contaminant, a contaminant regulated on the basis of an acute health effect, or a contaminant formed in the treatment process or in the distribution system, to provide that any public water system that serves a population of 10,000 or fewer shall not be required to conduct additional quarterly monitoring during any 3-year period for a specific contaminant if monitoring conducted at the beginning of the period for the contaminant fails to detect the presence of the contaminant in the water supplied by the public water system, and the Administrator or the State determines that the contaminant is unlikely to be detected by further monitoring in the period.”.

(b) UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—Section 1445(a) (42 U.S.C. 300j-4(a)) is amended by striking paragraphs (2) through (8) and inserting the following:

“(2) MONITORING PROGRAM FOR UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—

“(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall promulgate regulations establishing the criteria for a monitoring program for unregulated contaminants. The regulations shall require monitoring of drinking water supplied by public water systems and shall vary the frequency and schedule for monitoring requirements for systems based on the number of persons served by the system, the source of supply, and the contaminants likely to be found.

“(B) MONITORING PROGRAM FOR CERTAIN UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—

“(i) INITIAL LIST.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Amendments of 1995 and every 5 years thereafter, the Administrator shall issue a list pursuant to subparagraph (A) of not more than 20 unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems and to be included in the national drinking water occurrence data base maintained pursuant to paragraph (3).

“(ii) GOVERNORS’ PETITION.—The Administrator shall include among the list of contaminants for which monitoring is required under this paragraph each contaminant recommended in a petition signed by the Governor of each of 7 or more States, unless the Administrator determines that the action would prevent the listing of other contaminants of a higher public health concern.

“(C) MONITORING BY LARGE SYSTEMS.—A public water system that serves a population of more than 10,000 shall conduct monitoring for all contaminants listed under subparagraph (B).

“(D) MONITORING PLAN FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM SYSTEMS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Based on the regulations promulgated by the Administrator, each

State shall develop a representative monitoring plan to assess the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in public water systems that serve a population of 10,000 or fewer. The plan shall require monitoring for systems representative of different sizes, types, and geographic locations in the State.

“(i) GRANTS FOR SMALL SYSTEM COSTS.—From funds reserved under section 1478(c), the Administrator shall pay the reasonable cost of such testing and laboratory analysis as are necessary to carry out monitoring under the plan.

“(E) MONITORING RESULTS.—Each public water system that conducts monitoring of unregulated contaminants pursuant to this paragraph shall provide the results of the monitoring to the primary enforcement authority for the system.

“(F) WAIVER OF MONITORING REQUIREMENT.—The Administrator shall waive the requirement for monitoring for a contaminant under this paragraph in a State, if the State demonstrates that the criteria for listing the contaminant do not apply in that State.

“(G) ANALYTICAL METHODS.—The State may use screening methods approved by the Administrator under subsection (h) in lieu of monitoring for particular contaminants under this paragraph.

“(H) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this paragraph \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1995 through 2003.”

(c) NATIONAL DRINKING WATER OCCURRENCE DATABASE.—Section 1445(a) (42 U.S.C. 300j-4(a)) (as amended by subsection (b)) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) NATIONAL DRINKING WATER OCCURRENCE DATABASE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995, the Administrator shall assemble and maintain a national drinking water occurrence data base, using information on the occurrence of both regulated and unregulated contaminants in public water systems obtained under paragraph (2) and reliable information from other public and private sources.

“(B) USE.—The data shall be used by the Administrator in making determinations under section 1412(b)(1) with respect to the occurrence of a contaminant in drinking water at a level of public health concern.

“(C) PUBLIC RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Administrator shall periodically solicit recommendations from the appropriate officials of the National Academy of Sciences and the States, and any person may submit recommendations to the Administrator, with respect to contaminants that should be included in the national drinking water occurrence data base, including recommendations with respect to additional unregulated contaminants that should be listed under paragraph (2). Any recommendation submitted under this clause shall be accompanied by reasonable documentation that—

“(i) the contaminant occurs or is likely to occur in drinking water; and

“(ii) the contaminant poses a risk to public health.

“(D) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The information from the data base shall be available to the public in readily accessible form.

“(E) REGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—With respect to each contaminant for which a national primary drinking water regulation has been established, the data base shall include information on the detection of the contaminant at a quantifiable level in public water systems (including detection of the contaminant at levels not constituting a violation of the maximum contaminant level for the contaminant).

“(F) UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—With respect to contaminants for which a national primary drinking water regulation has not been established, the data base shall include—

“(i) monitoring information collected by public water systems that serve a population of more than 10,000, as required by the Administrator under paragraph (2);

“(ii) monitoring information collected by the States from a representative sampling of public water systems that serve a population of 10,000 or fewer; and

“(iii) other reliable and appropriate monitoring information on the occurrence of the contaminants in public water systems that is available to the Administrator.”

(d) INFORMATION.—

(1) MONITORING AND TESTING AUTHORITY.—Subparagraph (A) of section 1445(a)(1) (42 U.S.C. 300j-4(a)(1)) (as designated by subsection (a)(1)(A)) is amended—

(A) by inserting “by accepted methods” after “conduct such monitoring”; and

(B) by striking “such information as the Administrator may reasonably require” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting the following: “such information as the Administrator may reasonably require—

“(i) to assist the Administrator in establishing regulations under this title or to assist the Administrator in determining, on a case-by-case basis, whether the person has acted or is acting in compliance with this title; and

“(ii) by regulation to assist the Administrator in determining compliance with national primary drinking water regulations promulgated under section 1412 or in administering any program of financial assistance under this title.

If the Administrator is requiring monitoring for purposes of testing new or alternative methods, the Administrator may require the use of other than accepted methods. Information requirements imposed by the Administrator pursuant to the authority of this subparagraph that require monitoring, the establishment or maintenance of records or reporting, by a substantial number of public water systems (determined in the sole discretion of the Administrator), shall be established by regulation as provided in clause (ii).”

(2) SCREENING METHODS.—Section 1445 (42 U.S.C. 300j-4) (as amended by section 12(c)) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h) SCREENING METHODS.—The Administrator shall review new analytical methods to screen for regulated contaminants and may approve such methods as are more accurate or cost-effective than established reference methods for use in compliance monitoring.”

SEC. 20. PUBLIC NOTIFICATION.

Section 1414 (42 U.S.C. 300g-3) is amended by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) NOTICE TO PERSONS SERVED.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Each owner or operator of a public water system shall give notice to the persons served by the system—

“(A) of any failure on the part of the public water system to—

“(i) comply with an applicable maximum contaminant level or treatment technique requirement of, or a testing procedure prescribed by, a national primary drinking water regulation; or

“(ii) perform monitoring required by section 1445(a);

“(B) if the public water system is subject to a variance granted under section 1415(a)(1)(A), 1415(a)(2), or 1415(e) for an inability to meet a maximum contaminant

level requirement or is subject to an exemption granted under section 1416, of—

“(i) the existence of the variance or exemption; and

“(ii) any failure to comply with the requirements of any schedule prescribed pursuant to the variance or exemption; and

“(C) of the concentration level of any unregulated contaminant for which the Administrator has required public notice pursuant to paragraph (2)(E).

“(2) FORM, MANNER, AND FREQUENCY OF NOTICE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, by regulation, and after consultation with the States, prescribe the manner, frequency, form, and content for giving notice under this subsection. The regulations shall—

“(i) provide for different frequencies of notice based on the differences between violations that are intermittent or infrequent and violations that are continuous or frequent; and

“(ii) take into account the seriousness of any potential adverse health effects that may be involved.

“(B) STATE REQUIREMENTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—A State may, by rule, establish alternative notification requirements—

“(I) with respect to the form and content of notice given under and in a manner in accordance with subparagraph (C); and

“(II) with respect to the form and content of notice given under subparagraph (D).

“(ii) CONTENTS.—The alternative requirements shall provide the same type and amount of information as required pursuant to this subsection and regulations issued under subparagraph (A).

“(iii) RELATIONSHIP TO SECTION 1413.—Nothing in this subparagraph shall be construed or applied to modify the requirements of section 1413.

“(C) VIOLATIONS WITH POTENTIAL TO HAVE SERIOUS ADVERSE EFFECTS ON HUMAN HEALTH.—Regulations issued under subparagraph (A) shall specify notification procedures for each violation by a public water system that has the potential to have serious adverse effects on human health as a result of short-term exposure. Each notice of violation provided under this subparagraph shall—

“(i) be distributed as soon as practicable after the occurrence of the violation, but not later than 24 hours after the occurrence of the violation;

“(ii) provide a clear and readily understandable explanation of—

“(I) the violation;

“(II) the potential adverse effects on human health;

“(III) the steps that the public water system is taking to correct the violation; and

“(IV) the necessity of seeking alternative water supplies until the violation is corrected;

“(iii) be provided to the Administrator or the head of the State agency that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413 as soon as practicable, but not later than 24 hours after the occurrence of the violation; and

“(iv) as required by the State agency in general regulations of the State agency, or on a case-by-case basis after the consultation referred to in clause (iii), considering the health risks involved—

“(I) be provided to appropriate broadcast media;

“(II) be prominently published in a newspaper of general circulation serving the area not later than 1 day after distribution of a notice pursuant to clause (i) or the date of publication of the next issue of the newspaper; or

“(III) be provided by posting or door-to-door notification in lieu of notification by means of broadcast media or newspaper.

“(D) WRITTEN NOTICE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Regulations issued under subparagraph (A) shall specify notification procedures for violations other than the violations covered by subparagraph (C). The procedures shall specify that a public water system shall provide written notice to each person served by the system by notice—

“(I) in the first bill (if any) prepared after the date of occurrence of the violation;

“(II) in an annual report issued not later than 1 year after the date of occurrence of the violation; or

“(III) by mail or direct delivery as soon as practicable, but not later than 1 year after the date of occurrence of the violation.

“(ii) FORM AND MANNER OF NOTICE.—The Administrator shall prescribe the form and manner of the notice to provide a clear and readily understandable explanation of—

“(I) the violation;

“(II) any potential adverse health effects; and

“(III) the steps that the system is taking to seek alternative water supplies, if any, until the violation is corrected.

“(E) UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS.—The Administrator may require the owner or operator of a public water system to give notice to the persons served by the system of the concentration levels of an unregulated contaminant required to be monitored under section 1445(a).

“(3) REPORTS.—

“(A) ANNUAL REPORT BY STATE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 1, 1997, and annually thereafter, each State that has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413 shall prepare, make readily available to the public, and submit to the Administrator an annual report on violations of national primary drinking water regulations by public water systems in the State, including violations with respect to—

“(I) maximum contaminant levels;

“(II) treatment requirements;

“(III) variances and exemptions; and

“(IV) monitoring requirements determined to be significant by the Administrator after consultation with the States.

“(ii) DISTRIBUTION.—The State shall publish and distribute summaries of the report and indicate where the full report is available for review.

“(B) ANNUAL REPORT BY ADMINISTRATOR.—Not later than July 1, 1997, and annually thereafter, the Administrator shall prepare and make available to the public an annual report summarizing and evaluating reports submitted by States pursuant to subparagraph (A) and notices submitted by public water systems serving Indian Tribes provided to the Administrator pursuant to subparagraph (C) or (D) of paragraph (2) and making recommendations concerning the resources needed to improve compliance with this title. The report shall include information about public water system compliance on Indian reservations and about enforcement activities undertaken and financial assistance provided by the Administrator on Indian reservations, and shall make specific recommendations concerning the resources needed to improve compliance with this title on Indian reservations.”

SEC. 21. ENFORCEMENT; JUDICIAL REVIEW.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1414 (42 U.S.C. 300g-3) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in clause (i), by striking “any national primary drinking water regulation in effect under section 1412” and inserting “any applicable requirement”; and

(II) by striking “with such regulation or requirement” and inserting “with the requirement”; and

(i) in subparagraph (B), by striking “regulation or” and inserting “applicable”; and

(B) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) ENFORCEMENT IN NONPRIMACY STATES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If, on the basis of information available to the Administrator, the Administrator finds, with respect to a period in which a State does not have primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems, that a public water system in the State—

“(i) for which a variance under section 1415 or an exemption under section 1416 is not in effect, does not comply with any applicable requirement; or

“(ii) for which a variance under section 1415 or an exemption under section 1416 is in effect, does not comply with any schedule or other requirement imposed pursuant to the variance or exemption;

the Administrator shall issue an order under subsection (g) requiring the public water system to comply with the requirement, or commence a civil action under subsection (b).

“(B) NOTICE.—If the Administrator takes any action pursuant to this paragraph, the Administrator shall notify an appropriate local elected official, if any, with jurisdiction over the public water system of the action prior to the time that the action is taken.”

(2) in the first sentence of subsection (b), by striking “a national primary drinking water regulation” and inserting “any applicable requirement”;

(3) in subsection (g)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “regulation, schedule, or other” each place it appears and inserting “applicable”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in the first sentence—

(I) by striking “effect until after notice and opportunity for public hearing and,” and inserting “effect,”; and

(II) by striking “proposed order” and inserting “order”; and

(ii) in the second sentence, by striking “proposed to be”; and

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) EFFECT OF PENALTY AMOUNTS.—In a case in which a civil penalty sought by the Administrator under this paragraph does not exceed \$5,000, the penalty shall be assessed by the Administrator after notice and opportunity for a public hearing (unless the person against whom the penalty is assessed requests a hearing on the record in accordance with section 554 of title 5, United States Code). In a case in which a civil penalty sought by the Administrator under this paragraph exceeds \$5,000, but does not exceed \$25,000, the penalty shall be assessed by the Administrator after notice and opportunity for a hearing on the record in accordance with section 554 of title 5, United States Code.”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (C), by striking “paragraph exceeds \$5,000” and inserting “subsection for a violation of an applicable requirement exceeds \$25,000”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(h) CONSOLIDATION INCENTIVE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An owner or operator of a public water system may submit to the State in which the system is located (if the State has primary enforcement responsibility under section 1413) or to the Administrator (if the State does not have primary enforcement responsibility) a plan (including specific measures and schedules) for—

“(A) the physical consolidation of the system with 1 or more other systems;

“(B) the consolidation of significant management and administrative functions of the system with 1 or more other systems; or

“(C) the transfer of ownership of the system that may reasonably be expected to improve drinking water quality.

“(2) CONSEQUENCES OF APPROVAL.—If the State or the Administrator approves a plan pursuant to paragraph (1), no enforcement action shall be taken pursuant to this part with respect to a specific violation identified in the approved plan prior to the date that is the earlier of the date on which consolidation is completed according to the plan or the date that is 2 years after the plan is approved.

“(i) DEFINITION OF APPLICABLE REQUIREMENT.—In this section, the term ‘applicable requirement’ means—

“(1) a requirement of section 1412, 1414, 1415, 1416, 1417, 1441, or 1445;

“(2) a regulation promulgated pursuant to a section referred to in paragraph (1);

“(3) a schedule or requirement imposed pursuant to a section referred to in paragraph (1); and

“(4) a requirement of, or permit issued under, an applicable State program for which the Administrator has made a determination that the requirements of section 1413 have been satisfied, or an applicable State program approved pursuant to this part.”

(b) STATE AUTHORITY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES.—Section 1413(a) (42 U.S.C. 300g-2(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (4);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (5) and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) has adopted authority for administrative penalties (unless the constitution of the State prohibits the adoption of the authority) in a maximum amount—

“(A) in the case of a system serving a population of more than 10,000, that is not less than \$1,000 per day per violation; and

“(B) in the case of any other system, that is adequate to ensure compliance (as determined by the State);

except that a State may establish a maximum limitation on the total amount of administrative penalties that may be imposed on a public water system per violation.”

(c) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Section 1448(a) (42 U.S.C. 300j-7(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2) of the first sentence, by inserting “final” after “any other”; and

(2) in the second sentence, by striking “or issuance of the order” and inserting “or any other final Agency action”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following “In any petition concerning the assessment of a civil penalty pursuant to section 1414(g)(3)(B), the petitioner shall simultaneously send a copy of the complaint by certified mail to the Administrator and the Attorney General. The court shall set aside and remand the penalty order if the court finds that there is not substantial evidence in the record to support the finding of a violation or that the assessment of the penalty by the Administrator constitutes an abuse of discretion.”

SEC. 22. FEDERAL AGENCIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsections (a) and (b) of section 1447 (42 U.S.C. 300j-6) are amended to read as follows:

“(a) COMPLIANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each Federal agency shall be subject to, and comply with, all Federal, State, interstate, and local substantive and procedural requirements, administrative authorities, and process and sanctions concerning the provision of safe drinking water

or underground injection in the same manner, and to the same extent, as any non-governmental entity is subject to, and shall comply with, the requirements, authorities, and process and sanctions.

“(2) ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS AND PENALTIES.—The Federal, State, interstate, and local substantive and procedural requirements, administrative authorities, and process and sanctions referred to in paragraph (1) include all administrative orders and all civil and administrative penalties or fines, regardless of whether the penalties or fines are punitive or coercive in nature or are imposed for isolated, intermittent, or continuing violations.

“(3) LIMITED WAIVER OF SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY.—The United States expressly waives any immunity otherwise applicable to the United States with respect to any requirement, administrative authority, or process or sanction referred to in paragraph (2) (including any injunctive relief, administrative order, or civil or administrative penalty or fine referred to in paragraph (2), or reasonable service charge). The reasonable service charge referred to in the preceding sentence includes—

“(A) a fee or charge assessed in connection with the processing, issuance, renewal, or amendment of a permit, variance, or exemption, review of a plan, study, or other document, or inspection or monitoring of a facility; and

“(B) any other nondiscriminatory charge that is assessed in connection with a Federal, State, interstate, or local safe drinking water regulatory program.

“(4) CIVIL PENALTIES.—No agent, employee, or officer of the United States shall be personally liable for any civil penalty under this subsection with respect to any act or omission within the scope of the official duties of the agent, employee, or officer.

“(5) CRIMINAL SANCTIONS.—An agent, employee, or officer of the United States may be subject to a criminal sanction under a State, interstate, or local law concerning the provision of drinking water or underground injection. No department, agency, or instrumentality of the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of the Federal Government shall be subject to a sanction referred to in the preceding sentence.

“(b) WAIVER OF COMPLIANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may waive compliance with subsection (a) by any department, agency, or instrumentality in the executive branch if the President determines waiving compliance with such subsection to be in the paramount interest of the United States.

“(2) WAIVERS DUE TO LACK OF APPROPRIATIONS.—No waiver described in paragraph (1) shall be granted due to the lack of an appropriation unless the President has specifically requested the appropriation as part of the budgetary process and Congress has failed to make available the requested appropriation.

“(3) PERIOD OF WAIVER.—A waiver under this subsection shall be for a period of not to exceed 1 year, but an additional waiver may be granted for a period of not to exceed 1 year on the termination of a waiver if the President reviews the waiver and makes a determination that it is in the paramount interest of the United States to grant an additional waiver.

“(4) REPORT.—Not later than January 31 of each year, the President shall report to Congress on each waiver granted pursuant to this subsection during the preceding calendar year, together with the reason for granting the waiver.”

(b) ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY ORDERS.—Section 1447 (42 U.S.C. 300j-6) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d) ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY ORDERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Administrator finds that a Federal agency has violated an applicable requirement under this title, the Administrator may issue a penalty order assessing a penalty against the Federal agency.

“(2) PENALTIES.—The Administrator may, after notice to the agency, assess a civil penalty against the agency in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 per day per violation.

“(3) PROCEDURE.—Before an administrative penalty order issued under this subsection becomes final, the Administrator shall provide the agency an opportunity to confer with the Administrator and shall provide the agency notice and an opportunity for a hearing on the record in accordance with chapters 5 and 7 of title 5, United States Code.

“(4) PUBLIC REVIEW.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Any interested person may obtain review of an administrative penalty order issued under this subsection. The review may be obtained in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia or in the United States District Court for the district in which the violation is alleged to have occurred by the filing of a complaint with the court within the 30-day period beginning on the date the penalty order becomes final. The person filing the complaint shall simultaneously send a copy of the complaint by certified mail to the Administrator and the Attorney General.

“(B) RECORD.—The Administrator shall promptly file in the court a certified copy of the record on which the order was issued.

“(C) STANDARD OF REVIEW.—The court shall not set aside or remand the order unless the court finds that there is not substantial evidence in the record, taken as a whole, to support the finding of a violation or that the assessment of the penalty by the Administrator constitutes an abuse of discretion.

“(D) PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL PENALTIES.—The court may not impose an additional civil penalty for a violation that is subject to the order unless the court finds that the assessment constitutes an abuse of discretion by the Administrator.”

(c) CITIZEN ENFORCEMENT.—The first sentence of section 1449(a) (42 U.S.C. 300j-8(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “, or” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) for the collection of a penalty (and associated costs and interest) against any Federal agency that fails, by the date that is 1 year after the effective date of a final order to pay a penalty assessed by the Administrator under section 1447(d), to pay the penalty.”

(d) WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT.—Section 1447 (42 U.S.C. 300j-6) (as amended by subsection (b)) is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(e) WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT.—The Washington Aqueduct Authority, the Army Corps of Engineers, and the Secretary of the Army shall not pass the cost of any penalty assessed under this title on to any customer, user, or other purchaser of drinking water from the Washington Aqueduct system, including finished water from the Dalecarlia or McMillan treatment plant.”

SEC. 23. RESEARCH.

Section 1442 (42 U.S.C. 300j-1) (as amended by section 12(d)) is further amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) of subsection (b) as paragraph (3) of subsection (d) and moving such paragraph to appear after paragraph (2) of subsection (d);

(2) by striking subsection (b) (as so amended);

(3) by redesignating subparagraph (B) of subsection (a)(2) as subsection (b) and mov-

ing such subsection to appear after subsection (a);

(4) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraph (2) (as so amended) and inserting the following:

“(2) INFORMATION AND RESEARCH FACILITIES.—In carrying out this title, the Administrator is authorized to—

“(A) collect and make available information pertaining to research, investigations, and demonstrations with respect to providing a dependably safe supply of drinking water, together with appropriate recommendations in connection with the information; and

“(B) make available research facilities of the Agency to appropriate public authorities, institutions, and individuals engaged in studies and research relating to this title.”;

(B) by striking paragraph (3);

(C) by redesignating paragraph (11) as paragraph (3) and moving such paragraph to appear before paragraph (4); and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(11) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out research authorized by this section \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1994 through 2003, of which \$4,000,000 shall be available for each fiscal year for research on the health effects of arsenic in drinking water.”;

(5) in subsection (b) (as so amended)—

(A) by striking “subparagraph” each place it appears and inserting “subsection”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following: “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection \$8,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1995 through 2003.”;

(6) in the first sentence of subsection (c), by striking “eighteen months after the date of enactment of this subsection” and inserting “2 years after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995, and every 5 years thereafter”;

(7) in subsection (d) (as amended by paragraph (1))—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “, and” at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(D) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following:

“(4) develop and maintain a system for forecasting the supply of, and demand for, various professional occupational categories and other occupational categories needed for the protection and treatment of drinking water in each region of the United States.”; and

(E) by adding at the end the following: “There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1994 through 2003.”; and

(8) by adding at the end the following:

“(i) BIOLOGICAL MECHANISMS.—In carrying out this section, the Administrator shall conduct studies to—

“(1) understand the mechanisms by which chemical contaminants are absorbed, distributed, metabolized, and eliminated from the human body, so as to develop more accurate physiologically based models of the phenomena;

“(2) understand the effects of contaminants and the mechanisms by which the contaminants cause adverse effects (especially noncancer and infectious effects) and the variations in the effects among humans, especially subpopulations at greater risk of adverse effects, and between test animals and humans; and

“(3) develop new approaches to the study of complex mixtures, such as mixtures found in drinking water, especially to determine the prospects for synergistic or antagonistic

interactions that may affect the shape of the dose-response relationship of the individual chemicals and microbes, and to examine noncancer endpoints and infectious diseases, and susceptible individuals and subpopulations.

“(j) RESEARCH PRIORITIES.—To establish long-term priorities for research under this section, the Administrator shall develop, and periodically update, an integrated risk characterization strategy for drinking water quality. The strategy shall identify unmet needs, priorities for study, and needed improvements in the scientific basis for activities carried out under this title. The initial strategy shall be made available to the public not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this subsection.

“(k) RESEARCH PLAN FOR HARMFUL SUBSTANCES IN DRINKING WATER.—

“(l) DEVELOPMENT OF PLAN.—The Administrator shall—

“(A) not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, after consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Agriculture, and, as appropriate, the heads of other Federal agencies, develop a research plan to support the development and implementation of the most current version of the—

“(i) enhanced surface water treatment rule (59 Fed. Reg. 38832 (July 29, 1994));

“(ii) disinfectant and disinfection byproducts rule (Stage 2) (59 Fed. Reg. 38668 (July 29, 1994)); and

“(iii) ground water disinfection rule (availability of draft summary announced at 57 Fed. Reg. 33960 (July 31, 1992)); and

“(B) carry out the research plan, after consultation and appropriate coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture and the heads of other Federal agencies.

“(2) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The research plan shall include, at a minimum—

“(i) an identification and characterization of new disinfection byproducts associated with the use of different disinfectants;

“(ii) toxicological studies and, if warranted, epidemiological studies to determine what levels of exposure from disinfectants and disinfection byproducts, if any, may be associated with developmental and birth defects and other potential toxic end points;

“(iii) toxicological studies and, if warranted, epidemiological studies to quantify the carcinogenic potential from exposure to disinfection byproducts resulting from different disinfectants;

“(iv) the development of practical analytical methods for detecting and enumerating microbial contaminants, including giardia, cryptosporidium, and viruses;

“(v) the development of reliable, efficient, and economical methods to determine the viability of individual cryptosporidium oocysts;

“(vi) the development of dose-response curves for pathogens, including cryptosporidium and the Norwalk virus;

“(vii) the development of indicators that define treatment effectiveness for pathogens and disinfection byproducts; and

“(viii) bench, pilot, and full-scale studies and demonstration projects to evaluate optimized conventional treatment, ozone, granular activated carbon, and membrane technology for controlling pathogens (including cryptosporidium) and disinfection byproducts.

“(B) RISK DEFINITION STRATEGY.—The research plan shall include a strategy for determining the risks and estimated extent of disease resulting from pathogens, disinfectants, and disinfection byproducts in drinking water, and the costs and removal efficiencies associated with various control methods for

pathogens, disinfectants, and disinfection byproducts.

“(3) IMPLEMENTATION OF PLAN.—In carrying out the research plan, the Administrator shall use the most cost-effective mechanisms available, including coordination of research with, and use of matching funds from, institutions and utilities.

“(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection \$12,500,000 for each of fiscal years 1997 through 2003.

“(l) SUBPOPULATIONS AT GREATER RISK.—

“(1) RESEARCH PLAN.—The Administrator shall conduct a continuing program of peer-reviewed research to identify groups within the general population that may be at greater risk than the general population of adverse health effects from exposure to contaminants in drinking water. Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Administrator shall develop and implement a research plan to establish whether and to what degree infants, children, pregnant women, the elderly, individuals with a history of serious illness, or other subpopulations that can be identified and characterized are likely to experience elevated health risks, including risks of cancer, from contaminants in drinking water.

“(2) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—To the extent appropriate, the research shall be—

“(A) integrated into the health effects research plan carried out by the Administrator to support the regulation of specific contaminants under this Act; and

“(B) designed to identify—

“(i) the nature and extent of the elevated health risks, if any;

“(ii) the groups likely to experience the elevated health risks;

“(iii) biological mechanisms and other factors that may contribute to elevated health risks for groups within the general population;

“(iv) the degree of variability of the health risks to the groups from the health risks to the general population;

“(v) the threshold, if any, at which the elevated health risks for a specific contaminant occur; and

“(vi) the probability of the exposure to the contaminants by the identified group.

“(3) REPORT.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this subsection and periodically thereafter as new and significant information becomes available, the Administrator shall report to Congress on the results of the research.

“(4) USE OF RESEARCH.—In characterizing the health effects of drinking water contaminants under this Act, the Administrator shall consider all relevant factors, including the results of research under this subsection, the margin of safety for variability in the general population, and sound scientific practices (including the 1993 and 1994 reports of the National Academy of Sciences) regarding subpopulations at greater risk for adverse health effects.”

SEC. 24. DEFINITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1401 (42 U.S.C. 300f) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “accepted methods for” before “quality control”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“At any time after promulgation of a regulation referred to in this paragraph, the Administrator may add equally effective quality control and testing procedures by guidance published in the Federal Register. The procedures shall be treated as an alternative for public water systems to the quality control and testing procedures listed in the regulation.”

(2) in paragraph (13)—

(A) by striking “The” and inserting “(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) For purposes of part G, the term ‘State’ means each of the 50 States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.”

(3) in paragraph (14), by adding at the end the following: “For purposes of part G, the term includes any Native village (as defined in section 3(c) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602(c)).”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(15) COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEM.—The term ‘community water system’ means a public water system that—

“(A) serves at least 15 service connections used by year-round residents of the area served by the system; or

“(B) regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents.

“(16) NONCOMMUNITY WATER SYSTEM.—The term ‘noncommunity water system’ means a public water system that is not a community water system.”

(b) PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1401(4) (42 U.S.C. 300f(4)) is amended—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking “piped water for human consumption” and inserting “water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances”;

(B) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively;

(C) by striking “(4) The” and inserting the following:

“(4) PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) CONNECTIONS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), a connection to a system that delivers water by a constructed conveyance other than a pipe shall not be considered a connection, if—

“(I) the water is used exclusively for purposes other than residential uses (consisting of drinking, bathing, and cooking, or other similar uses);

“(II) the Administrator or the State (in the case of a State exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems) determines that alternative water to achieve the equivalent level of public health protection provided by the applicable national primary drinking water regulation is provided for residential or similar uses for drinking and cooking; or

“(III) the Administrator or the State (in the case of a State exercising primary enforcement responsibility for public water systems) determines that the water provided for residential or similar uses for drinking and cooking is centrally treated or treated at the point of entry by the provider, a pass-through entity, or the user to achieve the equivalent level of protection provided by the applicable national primary drinking water regulations.

“(ii) IRRIGATION DISTRICTS.—An irrigation district in existence prior to May 18, 1994, that provides primarily agricultural service through a piped water system with only incidental residential use shall not be considered to be a public water system if the system or the residential users of the system comply with subclause (II) or (III) of clause (i).

“(C) TRANSITION PERIOD.—A water supplier that would be a public water system only as a result of modifications made to this paragraph by the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995 shall not be considered a public water system for purposes of the Act until the date that is two years after the date of enactment of this subparagraph, if

during such two-year period the water supplier complies with the monitoring requirements of the Surface Water Treatment Rule and no indicator of microbial contamination is exceeded during that period. If a water supplier does not serve 15 service connections (as defined in subparagraphs (A) and (B)) or 25 people at any time after the conclusion of the two-year period, the water supplier shall not be considered a public water system.”

SEC. 25. WATERSHED AND GROUND WATER PROTECTION.

(a) STATE GROUND WATER PROTECTION GRANTS.—Section 1443 (42 U.S.C. 300j-2) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) STATE GROUND WATER PROTECTION GRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may make a grant to a State for the development and implementation of a State program to ensure the coordinated and comprehensive protection of ground water resources within the State.

“(2) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995, and annually thereafter, the Administrator shall publish guidance that establishes procedures for application for State ground water protection program assistance and that identifies key elements of State ground water protection programs.

“(3) CONDITIONS OF GRANTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall award grants to States that submit an application that is approved by the Administrator. The Administrator shall determine the amount of a grant awarded pursuant to this paragraph on the basis of an assessment of the extent of ground water resources in the State and the likelihood that awarding the grant will result in sustained and reliable protection of ground water quality.

“(B) INNOVATIVE PROGRAM GRANTS.—The Administrator may also award a grant pursuant to this paragraph for innovative programs proposed by a State for the prevention of ground water contamination.

“(C) ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.—The Administrator shall, at a minimum, ensure that, for each fiscal year, not less than 1 percent of funds made available to the Administrator by appropriations to carry out this subsection are allocated to each State that submits an application that is approved by the Administrator pursuant to this subsection.

“(D) LIMITATION ON GRANTS.—No grant awarded by the Administrator may be used for a project to remediate ground water contamination.

“(4) COORDINATION WITH OTHER GRANT PROGRAMS.—The awarding of grants by the Administrator pursuant to this subsection shall be coordinated with the awarding of grants pursuant to section 319(i) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1329(i)) and the awarding of other Federal grant assistance that provides funding for programs related to ground water protection.

“(5) AMOUNT OF GRANTS.—The amount of a grant awarded pursuant to paragraph (1) shall not exceed 50 percent of the eligible costs of carrying out the ground water protection program that is the subject of the grant (as determined by the Administrator) for the 1-year period beginning on the date that the grant is awarded. The State shall pay a State share to cover the costs of the ground water protection program from State funds in an amount that is not less than 50 percent of the cost of conducting the program.

“(6) EVALUATIONS AND REPORTS.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995, and every 3 years thereafter, the Administrator shall evaluate the State ground water protection programs that are the subject of grants awarded pursuant to this subsection and report to Congress on the status of ground water quality in the United States and the effectiveness of State programs for ground water protection.

“(7) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1995 through 2003.”

(b) CRITICAL AQUIFER PROTECTION.—Section 1427 (42 U.S.C. 300h-6) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “not later than 24 months after the enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1986”; and

(2) in the first sentence of subsection (n), by adding at the end the following:

“1992-2003 15,000,000.”

(c) WELLHEAD PROTECTION AREAS.—Section 1428(k) (42 U.S.C. 300h-7(k)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“1992-2003 30,000,000.”

(d) UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL GRANT.—Section 1443(b)(5) (42 U.S.C. 300j-2(b)(5)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“1992-2003 15,000,000.”

(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS ON PRIVATE DRINKING WATER.—Section 1450 (42 U.S.C. 300j-9) is amended by striking subsection (h) and inserting the following:

“(h) REPORT TO CONGRESS ON PRIVATE DRINKING WATER.—The Administrator shall conduct a study to determine the extent and seriousness of contamination of private sources of drinking water that are not regulated under this title. Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995, the Administrator shall submit to Congress a report that includes the findings of the study and recommendations by the Administrator concerning responses to any problems identified under the study. In designing and conducting the study, including consideration of research design, methodology, and conclusions and recommendations, the Administrator shall consult with experts outside the Agency, including scientists, hydrogeologists, well contractors and suppliers, and other individuals knowledgeable in ground water protection and remediation.”

(f) NATIONAL CENTER FOR GROUND WATER RESEARCH.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, acting through the Robert S. Kerr Environmental Research Laboratory, is authorized to reestablish a partnership between the Laboratory and the National Center for Ground Water Research, a university consortium, to conduct research, training, and technology transfer for ground water quality protection and restoration.

(g) WATERSHED PROTECTION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

(1) The heading of section 1443 (42 U.S.C.) is amended to read as follows:

“Grants for State and local programs”

(2) Section 1443 (42 U.S.C.) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

“(e) WATERSHED PROTECTION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—

“(A) ASSISTANCE FOR DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—The Administrator is authorized to provide technical and financial assistance to units of State or local government for projects that demonstrate and assess innovative and enhanced methods and practices to develop and implement watershed protection

programs including methods and practices that protect both surface and ground water. In selecting projects for assistance under this subsection, the Administrator shall give priority to projects that are carried out to satisfy criteria published under section 1412(b)(7)(C) or that are identified through programs developed and implemented pursuant to section 1428.

“(B) MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—Federal assistance provided under this subsection shall not exceed 35 percent of the total cost of the protection program being carried out for any particular watershed or ground water recharge area.

“(2) NEW YORK CITY WATERSHED PROTECTION PROGRAM.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to the authority of paragraph (1), the Administrator is authorized to provide financial assistance to the State of New York for demonstration projects implemented as part of the watershed program for the protection and enhancement of the quality of source waters of the New York City water supply system. Demonstration projects which shall be eligible for financial assistance shall be certified to the Administrator by the State of New York as satisfying the purposes of this subsection and shall include those projects that demonstrate, assess, or provide for comprehensive monitoring, surveillance, and research with respect to the efficacy of phosphorus offsets or trading, wastewater diversion, septic system siting and maintenance, innovative or enhanced wastewater treatment technologies, innovative methodologies for the control of storm water runoff, urban, agricultural, and forestry best management practices for controlling nonpoint source pollution, operator training, compliance surveillance and that establish watershed or basin-wide coordinating, planning or governing organizations. In certifying projects to the Administrator, the State of New York shall give priority to these monitoring and research projects that have undergone peer review.

“(B) REPORT.—Not later than 5 years after the date on which the Administrator first provides assistance pursuant to this paragraph, the Governor of the State of New York shall submit a report to the Administrator on the results of projects assisted.

“(3) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator such sums as are necessary to carry out this subsection for each of fiscal years 1997 through 2003 including \$15,000,000 for each of such fiscal years for the purpose of providing assistance to the State of New York to carry out paragraph (2).”

SEC. 26. LEAD PLUMBING AND PIPES; RETURN FLOWS.

(a) FITTINGS AND FIXTURES.—Section 1417 (42 U.S.C. 300g-6) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) PROHIBITIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—No person may use any pipe, any pipe or plumbing fitting or fixture, any solder, or any flux, after June 19, 1986, in the installation or repair of—

“(i) any public water system; or

“(ii) any plumbing in a residential or non-residential facility providing water for human consumption, that is not lead free (within the meaning of subsection (d)).

“(B) LEADED JOINTS.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to leaded joints necessary for the repair of cast iron pipes.”

(B) in paragraph (2)(A), by inserting after “Each” the following: “owner or operator of a”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) UNLAWFUL ACTS.—Effective 2 years after the date of enactment of this paragraph, it shall be unlawful—

“(A) for any person to introduce into commerce any pipe, or any pipe or plumbing fitting or fixture, that is not lead free, except for a pipe that is used in manufacturing or industrial processing;

“(B) for any person engaged in the business of selling plumbing supplies, except manufacturers, to sell solder or flux that is not lead free; or

“(C) for any person to introduce into commerce any solder or flux that is not lead free unless the solder or flux bears a prominent label stating that it is illegal to use the solder or flux in the installation or repair of any plumbing providing water for human consumption.”;

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “lead, and” and inserting “lead;”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “lead.” and inserting “lead; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) when used with respect to plumbing fittings and fixtures, refers to plumbing fittings and fixtures in compliance with standards established in accordance with subsection (e).”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(e) PLUMBING FITTINGS AND FIXTURES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall provide accurate and timely technical information and assistance to qualified third-party certifiers in the development of voluntary standards and testing protocols for the leaching of lead from new plumbing fittings and fixtures that are intended by the manufacturer to dispense water for human ingestion.

“(2) STANDARDS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If a voluntary standard for the leaching of lead is not established by the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Administrator shall, not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, promulgate regulations setting a health-effects-based performance standard establishing maximum leaching levels from new plumbing fittings and fixtures that are intended by the manufacturer to dispense water for human ingestion. The standard shall become effective on the date that is 5 years after the date of promulgation of the standard.

“(B) ALTERNATIVE REQUIREMENT.—If regulations are required to be promulgated under subparagraph (A) and have not been promulgated by the date that is 5 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, no person may import, manufacture, process, or distribute in commerce a new plumbing fitting or fixture, intended by the manufacturer to dispense water for human ingestion, that contains more than 4 percent lead by dry weight.”.

(b) WATER RETURN FLOWS.—Section 3013 of Public Law 102-486 (42 U.S.C. 13551) is repealed.

(c) RECORDS AND INSPECTIONS.—Subparagraph (A) of section 1445(a)(1) (42 U.S.C. 300j-4(a)(1)) (as designated by section 19(a)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “Every person” and all that follows through “is a grantee,” and inserting “Every person who is subject to any requirement of this title or who is a grantee”.

SEC. 27. BOTTLED WATER.

Section 410 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 349) is amended—

(1) by striking “Whenever” and inserting “(a) Except as provided in subsection (b), whenever”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b)(1) After the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency publishes a

proposed maximum contaminant level, but not later than 180 days after the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency publishes a final maximum contaminant level, for a contaminant under section 1412 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300g-1), the Secretary, after public notice and comment, shall issue a regulation that establishes a quality level for the contaminant in bottled water or make a finding that a regulation is not necessary to protect the public health because the contaminant is contained in water in the public water systems (as defined under section 1401(4) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 300f(4)) and not in water used for bottled drinking water. In the case of any contaminant for which a national primary drinking water regulation was promulgated before the date of enactment of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1995, the Secretary shall issue the regulation or make the finding required by this paragraph not later than 1 year after that date.

“(2) The regulation shall include any monitoring requirements that the Secretary determines to be appropriate for bottled water.

“(3) The regulation—

“(A) shall require that the quality level for the contaminant in bottled water be as stringent as the maximum contaminant level for the contaminant published by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency; and

“(B) may require that the quality level be more stringent than the maximum contaminant level if necessary to provide ample public health protection under this Act.

“(4)(A) If the Secretary fails to establish a regulation within the period described in paragraph (1), the regulation with respect to the final maximum contaminant level published by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (as described in such paragraph) shall be considered, as of the date on which the Secretary is required to establish a regulation under paragraph (1), as the final regulation for the establishment of the quality level for a contaminant required under paragraph (1) for the purpose of establishing or amending a bottled water quality level standard with respect to the contaminant.

“(B) Not later than 30 days after the end of the period described in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall, with respect to a maximum contaminant level that is considered as a quality level under subparagraph (A), publish a notice in the Federal Register that sets forth the quality level and appropriate monitoring requirements required under paragraphs (1) and (2) and that provides that the quality level standard and requirements shall take effect on the date on which the final regulation of the maximum contaminant level takes effect or 18 months after the notice is issued pursuant to this subparagraph, whichever is later.”.

SEC. 28. OTHER AMENDMENTS.

(a) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT.—

(1) AUTHORIZATIONS.—

(A) AUTHORIZATION OF MODERNIZATION.—Subject to approval in, and in such amounts as may be provided in appropriations Acts, the Chief of Engineers of the Army Corps of Engineers is authorized to modernize the Washington Aqueduct.

(B) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Army Corps of Engineers borrowing authority in amounts sufficient to cover the full costs of modernizing the Washington Aqueduct. The borrowing authority shall be provided by the Secretary of the Treasury, under such terms and conditions as are established by the Secretary of the Treasury, after a series of contracts with each public

water supply customer has been entered into under paragraph (2).

(2) CONTRACTS WITH PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY CUSTOMERS.—

(A) CONTRACTS TO REPAY CORPS DEBT.—To the extent provided in appropriations Acts, and in accordance with subparagraphs (B) and (C), the Chief of Engineers of the Army Corps of Engineers is authorized to enter into a series of contracts with each public water supply customer under which the customer commits to repay a pro-rata share of the principal and interest owed by the Army Corps of Engineers to the Secretary of the Treasury under paragraph (1). Under each of the contracts, the customer that enters into the contract shall commit to pay any additional amount necessary to fully offset the risk of default on the contract.

(B) OFFSETTING OF RISK OF DEFAULT.—Each contract under subparagraph (A) shall include such additional terms and conditions as the Secretary of the Treasury may require so that the value to the Government of the contracts is estimated to be equal to the obligatory authority used by the Army Corps of Engineers for modernizing the Washington Aqueduct at the time that each series of contracts is entered into.

(C) OTHER CONDITIONS.—Each contract entered into under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) provide that the public water supply customer pledges future income from fees assessed to operate and maintain the Washington Aqueduct;

(ii) provide the United States priority over all other creditors; and

(iii) include other conditions that the Secretary of the Treasury determines to be appropriate.

(3) BORROWING AUTHORITY.—Subject to an appropriation under paragraph (1)(B) and after entering into a series of contracts under paragraph (2), the Secretary, acting through the Chief of Engineers of the Army Corps of Engineers, shall seek borrowing authority from the Secretary of the Treasury under paragraph (1)(B).

(4) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

(A) PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY CUSTOMER.—The term “public water supply customer” means the District of Columbia, the county of Arlington, Virginia, and the city of Falls Church, Virginia.

(B) VALUE TO THE GOVERNMENT.—The term “value to the Government” means the net present value of a contract under paragraph (2) calculated under the rules set forth in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 502(5) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 661a(5)), excluding section 502(5)(b)(i) of such Act, as though the contracts provided for the repayment of direct loans to the public water supply customers.

(C) WASHINGTON AQUEDUCT.—The term “Washington Aqueduct” means the water supply system of treatment plants, raw water intakes, conduits, reservoirs, transmission mains, and pumping stations owned by the Federal Government located in the metropolitan Washington, District of Columbia, area.

(b) DRINKING WATER ADVISORY COUNCIL.—The second sentence of section 1446(a) (42 U.S.C. 300j-6(a)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, of which two such members shall be associated with small, rural public water systems”.

(c) SHORT TITLE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The title (42 U.S.C. 1401 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the title heading the following:

“SHORT TITLE

“SEC. 1400. This title may be cited as the ‘Safe Drinking Water Act’.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1 of Public Law 93-523 (88 Stat. 1660) is amended by inserting “of 1974” after “Water Act”.

(d) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO SECTION HEADINGS.—

(1) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1417 (42 U.S.C. 300g-6) are amended to read as follows:

“PROHIBITION ON USE OF LEAD PIPES, FITTINGS, SOLDER, AND FLUX

“SEC. 1417. (a)”.

(2) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1426 (42 U.S.C. 300h-5) are amended to read as follows:

“REGULATION OF STATE PROGRAMS

“SEC. 1426. (a)”.

(3) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1427 (42 U.S.C. 300h-6) are amended to read as follows:

“SOLE SOURCE AQUIFER DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

“SEC. 1427. (a)”.

(4) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1428 (42 U.S.C. 300h-7) are amended to read as follows:

“STATE PROGRAMS TO ESTABLISH WELLHEAD PROTECTION AREAS

“SEC. 1428. (a)”.

(5) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1432 (42 U.S.C. 300i-1) are amended to read as follows:

“TAMPERING WITH PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS

“SEC. 1432. (a)”.

(6) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1451 (42 U.S.C. 300j-11) are amended to read as follows:

“INDIAN TRIBES

“SEC. 1451. (a)”.

(7) The section heading and first word of section 1461 (42 U.S.C. 300j-21) are amended to read as follows:

“DEFINITIONS

“SEC. 1461. As”.

(8) The section heading and first word of section 1462 (42 U.S.C. 300j-22) are amended to read as follows:

“RECALL OF DRINKING WATER COOLERS WITH LEAD-LINED TANKS

“SEC. 1462. For”.

(9) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1463 (42 U.S.C. 300j-23) are amended to read as follows:

“DRINKING WATER COOLERS CONTAINING LEAD

“SEC. 1463. (a)”.

(10) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1464 (42 U.S.C. 300j-24) are amended to read as follows:

“LEAD CONTAMINATION IN SCHOOL DRINKING WATER

“SEC. 1464. (a)”.

(11) The section heading and subsection designation of subsection (a) of section 1465 (42 U.S.C. 300j-25) are amended to read as follows:

“FEDERAL ASSISTANCE FOR STATE PROGRAMS REGARDING LEAD CONTAMINATION IN SCHOOL DRINKING WATER

“SEC. 1465. (a)”.

(e) PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF ZEBRA MUSSEL INFESTATION OF LAKE CHAMPLAIN.—

(1) FINDINGS.—Section 1002(a) of the Non-Indigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 4701(a)) is amended—

(A) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (3);

(B) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (4) and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) the zebra mussel was discovered on Lake Champlain during 1993 and the opportunity exists to act quickly to establish zebra mussel controls before Lake Champlain is further infested and management costs escalate.”.

(2) EX OFFICIO MEMBERS OF AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES TASK FORCE.—Section 1201(c) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 4721(c)) is amended by inserting “, the Lake Champlain Basin Program,” after “Great Lakes Commission”.

(3) AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES PROGRAM.—Subsections (b)(6) and (i)(1) of section 1202 of such Act (16 U.S.C. 4722) is amended by inserting “, Lake Champlain,” after “Great Lakes” each place it appears.

(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 1301(b) of such Act (16 U.S.C. 4741(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, and the Lake Champlain Research Consortium,” after “Laboratory”; and

(B) in paragraph (4)(A)—

(i) by inserting after “(33 U.S.C. 1121 et seq.)” the following: “and grants to colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts referred to in the first section of the Act of August 30, 1890 (26 Stat 417, chapter 841; 7 U.S.C. 322); and

(ii) by inserting “and the Lake Champlain basin” after “Great Lakes region”.

(f) SOUTHWEST CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AND POLICY.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTER.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall take such action as may be necessary to establish the Southwest Center for Environmental Research and Policy (hereinafter referred to as “the Center”).

(2) MEMBERS OF THE CENTER.—The Center shall consist of a consortium of American and Mexican universities, including New Mexico State University; the University of Utah; the University of Texas at El Paso; San Diego State University; Arizona State University; and four educational institutions in Mexico.

(3) FUNCTIONS.—Among its functions, the Center shall—

(A) conduct research and development programs, projects and activities, including training and community service, on United States-Mexico border environmental issues, with particular emphasis on water quality and safe drinking water;

(B) provide objective, independent assistance to the EPA and other Federal, State and local agencies involved in environmental policy, research, training and enforcement, including matters affecting water quality and safe drinking water throughout the southwest border region of the United States; and

(C) help to coordinate and facilitate the improvement of environmental policies and programs between the United States and Mexico, including water quality and safe drinking water policies and programs.

(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator \$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1996 through 2003 to carry out the programs, projects and activities of the Center. Funds made available pursuant to this paragraph shall be distributed by the Administrator to the university members of the Center located in the United States.

(g) ESTROGENIC SUBSTANCES SCREENING PROGRAM.—

(1) DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Administrator shall develop a screening program, using appropriate validated test systems, to determine whether certain substances may have an effect in humans that is similar to an effect produced by

a naturally occurring estrogen, or such other endocrine effect as the Administrator may designate.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, after obtaining review of the screening program described in paragraph 1 by the scientific advisory panel established under section 25(d) of the Act of June 25, 1947 (chapter 125), and the Science Advisory Board established by section 8 of the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 1978 (42 U.S.C. 4365), the Administrator shall implement the program.

(3) SUBSTANCES.—In carrying out the screening program described in paragraph (1), the Administrator shall provide for the testing of all active and inert ingredients used in products described in section 103(e) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9603(e)), and may provide for the testing of any other substance if the Administrator determines that a widespread population may be exposed to the substance.

(4) EXEMPTION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (3), the Administrator may, by regulation, exempt from the requirements of this subsection a biologic substance or other substance if the Administrator determines that the substance does not have any effect in humans similar to an effect produced by a naturally occurring estrogen.

(5) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall issue an order to a person that manufactures a substance for which testing is required under this subsection to conduct testing in accordance with the screening program described in paragraph (1), and submit information obtained from the testing to the Administrator, within a time period that the Administrator determines is sufficient for the generation of the information.

(B) FAILURE TO SUBMIT INFORMATION.—

(i) SUSPENSION.—If a person referred to in subparagraph (A) fails to submit the information required under such subparagraph within the time period established by the order, the Administrator shall issue a notice of intent to suspend the sale or distribution of the substance by the person. Any suspension proposed under this subparagraph shall become final at the end of the 30-day period beginning on the date that the person receives the notice of intent to suspend, unless during that period a person adversely affected by the notice requests a hearing or the Administrator determines that the person referred to in subparagraph (A) has complied fully with this paragraph.

(ii) HEARING.—If a person requests a hearing under clause (i), the hearing shall be conducted in accordance with section 554 of title 5, United States Code. The only matter for resolution at the hearing shall be whether the person has failed to submit information required under this paragraph. A decision by the Administrator after completion of a hearing shall be considered to be a final agency action.

(iii) TERMINATION OF SUSPENSIONS.—The Administrator shall terminate a suspension under this subparagraph issued with respect to a person if the Administrator determines that the person has complied fully with this paragraph.

(6) AGENCY ACTION.—In the case of any substance that is found to have a potential adverse effect on humans as a result of testing and evaluation under this subsection, the Administrator shall take such action, including appropriate regulatory action by rule or by order under statutory authority available to the Administrator, as is necessary to ensure the protection of public health.

(7) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 4 years after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Administrator shall prepare and submit to Congress a report containing—

(A) the findings of the Administrator resulting from the screening program described in paragraph (1);

(B) recommendations for further testing and research needed to evaluate the impact on human health of the substances tested under the screening program; and

(C) recommendations for any further actions (including any action described in paragraph (6)) that the Administrator determines are appropriate based on the findings.

(h) GRANTS TO ALASKA TO IMPROVE SANITATION IN RURAL AND NATIVE VILLAGES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency may make grants to the State of Alaska for the benefit of rural and Native villages in Alaska to pay the Federal share of the cost of—

(A) the development and construction of water and wastewater systems to improve the health and sanitation conditions in the villages; and

(B) training, technical assistance, and educational programs relating to the operation and management of sanitation services in rural and Native villages.

(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of the activities described in paragraph (1) shall be 50 percent.

(3) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—The State of Alaska may use an amount not to exceed 4 percent of any grant made available under this subsection for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the activities described in paragraph (1).

(4) CONSULTATION WITH THE STATE OF ALASKA.—The Administrator shall consult with the State of Alaska on a method of prioritizing the allocation of grants under paragraph (1) according to the needs of, and relative health and sanitation conditions in, each eligible village.

(5) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary for each of the fiscal years 1996 through 2003 to carry out this subsection.

(i) ASSISTANCE TO COLONIAS.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this subsection—

(A) ELIGIBLE COMMUNITY.—The term “eligible community” means a low-income community with economic hardship that—

(i) is commonly referred to as a colonia;

(ii) is located along the United States-Mexico border (generally in an unincorporated area); and

(iii) lacks basic sanitation facilities such as a safe drinking water supply, household plumbing, and a proper sewage disposal system.

(B) BORDER STATE.—The term “border State” means Arizona, California, New Mexico and Texas.

(C) TREATMENT WORKS.—The term “treatment works” has the meaning provided in section 212(2) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1292(2)).

(2) GRANTS TO ALLEVIATE HEALTH RISKS.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies are authorized to award grants to any appropriate entity or border State to provide assistance to eligible communities for—

(A) the conservation, development, use and control (including the extension or improvement of a water distribution system) of water for the purpose of supplying drinking water; and

(B) the construction or improvement of sewers and treatment works for wastewater treatment.

(3) USE OF FUNDS.—Each grant awarded pursuant to paragraph (2) shall be used to provide assistance to one or more eligible community with respect to which the residents are subject to a significant health risk (as determined by the Administrator or the head of the Federal agency making the grant) attributable to the lack of access to an adequate and affordable drinking water supply system or treatment works for wastewater.

(4) OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.—The Administrator and the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies, other entities or border States are authorized to use funds appropriated pursuant to this subsection to operate and maintain a treatment works or other project that is constructed with funds made available pursuant to this subsection.

(5) PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.—Each treatment works or other project that is funded by a grant awarded pursuant to this subsection shall be constructed in accordance with plans and specifications approved by the Administrator, the head of the Federal agency making the grant, or the border State in which the eligible community is located. The standards for construction applicable to a treatment works or other project eligible for assistance under title II of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1281 et seq.) shall apply to the construction of a treatment works or project under this subsection in the same manner as the standards apply under such title.

(6) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 1996 through 2003.

MOTION OFFERED BY MR. BILILEY

Mr. BILILEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. BILILEY moves to strike all after the enacting clause of S. 1316 and insert in lieu thereof the text of H.R. 3604 as passed by the House, as follows:

[Bill not available at time of printing. Will be printed in a future issue of the RECORD.]

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. BILILEY].

The motion was agreed to.

The Senate bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

The title of the Senate bill was amended so as to read: “A bill to amend title XIV of the Public Health Service Act (the “Safe Drinking Water Act”) and for other purposes.”

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

A similar House bill (H.R. 3604) laid on the table.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON S. 1316

Mr. BILILEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the House insist on its amendments to the Senate bill, S. 1316, and request a conference with the Senate thereon.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT OFFERED BY MR. STUPAK

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. STUPAK moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the House amendment to the bill S. 1316 be instructed to insist upon the provisions contained in section 506 of the House amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Virginia [Mr. BILILEY] will be recognized for 30 minutes, and the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. STUPAK] will be recognized for 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. STUPAK].

□ 1730

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, if I may, after I make my statement I ask unanimous consent that any remaining time I have be controlled by the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL].

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the subject of this motion to instruct is critical to the success of this conference.

On June 25, 1996, I came to the floor prepared to unequivocally support a bill that protects the environment and provides needed flexibility for local governments.

I was very concerned to learn that \$375 million in earmarks were added to the agreed upon bi-partisan bill.

I introduced into the RECORD the administration's position on these earmarks. The administration position states, “The administration * * * strongly opposes the provisions added in title V which would jeopardize public health and undermine the SRF by limiting states' flexibility to prioritize project funding.”

In addition to inserting this statement, I engaged the gentleman from New York, the chairman of the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee in a colloquy on this issue. He pledged to maintain the 75-percent trigger in the final conference report.

By supporting this motion, the Members of the House will show their agreement with the gentleman from New York. Please do not let an urgent bill like the Safe Drinking Water Act fall prey to backroom pork politics. I urge the Members of the House to support this motion.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILILEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on the motion to instruct conferees.

As my colleagues are aware, H.R. 3604 contains an authorization for a new State Revolving Fund for drinking water projects. This program will provide States with grants which they can use to make loans to public water systems to comply with the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

This SRF will go a long way to address the fact that the Safe Drinking Water Act imposes significant costs on States and local governments. H.R. 3604 makes other changes in the Safe Drinking Water Act to improve the cost-effectiveness of drinking water regulations. But the fact is that we will continue to need regulations for contaminants in drinking water, so we need this new SRF to help States and local governments pay for the costs of those regulations.

This bill also contains authorization for several grant programs which were developed by the Transportation Committee. The largest of these grant programs would authorize \$50 million a year for other types of water projects. The bill contains a provision that says that these grant programs should not be funded unless and until the State Revolving Fund receives at least 75 percent of the authorized amounts. This is to ensure that the new State Revolving Fund for public water systems, which is important to the success of the Safe Drinking Water Act program, does not wither away for lack of funding.

It is my understanding that this motion to instruct conferees simply urges support for the 75 percent funding condition in the House bill. I support this provision and urge my colleagues to support the motion to instruct.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. DINGELL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, this motion instructs the House conferees to stand by the firewall provisions of the House safe drinking water bill. The provisions protect the funds established for State-selected and State-controlled safe drinking water projects from any raids to funds from congressionally directed construction projects added to this bill at the last minute by the House leadership. Those cholesterol-rich pork provisions should be a matter of legitimate concern to every Member of this body.

While not everyone will agree with my assessment that these projects are 100 percent U.S. certified pork high in cholesterol, there is fortunately no dispute that they should not receive one cent of funding unless and until the State drinking water revolving fund is capitalized at sufficient levels.

Luckily there is language in this bill which passes the House that provides some firewall protection. I commend my colleagues on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for agreeing to include this language. My motion to instruct makes it clear that the conferees not forget this explicit commitment in the House-passed bill.

Mr. Speaker, 3 weeks ago the House passed a bipartisan reauthorization of the safe Drinking Water Act. This measure makes necessary improve-

ments to the act to ensure that the drinking water of this country is safe today and safe in the future. This measure will improve protection of our drinking water from microbiological contaminants that cause acute illnesses, even death, from single exposures. This measure will reduce the exposures to carcinogens, to endocrine disruptors and other long-term human health threats.

The bill gives the States and the water districts unprecedented flexibility to customize their own safe drinking water programs to meet individual needs in their own special circumstances, but with this progress and with this flexibility will come increased responsibility for the States and for the water districts and other suppliers of water to the communities. For this reason the House bill creates a State revolving fund to help the States and localities to meet the costs of complying with the Safe Drinking Water Act. This State revolving fund is authorized to be funded at \$1 billion a year through the year 2003.

The fund is to be divided between the States by an objective formula. States can use money for grants and loans to their own water districts under rules that focus the money on projects that address the most serious health risks, ensure compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act and assist the several water districts in the States with the greatest need on a per household basis.

Contrasted with this fair and impartial program are \$375 million in grants. These were added behind closed doors in dark secrecy to fund projects selected on the basis of pure raw politics. Under this program some 14 projects have already been earmarked. Of these 14 a few represent honest high priorities. Many include water totally unrelated to the Safe Drinking Water Act. Not surprising to observe, the overwhelming majority of these projects are for Republican Members including some of the freshmen from marginal districts.

Now, I want to be very clear with my colleagues on the subcommittee and full Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. I do not object to Congress properly funding important and desirable projects to the districts of Members. As was pointed out in the debate on the bill itself, my own district has been receiving funds for water projects and other projects which I and my constituents are properly grateful for. But I do think that it is appropriate to raise questions when these projects are inserted without hearings, without cost-benefit analysis and under the cover of darkness rather than in the open light of day and only as an exercise of pure political muscle, and the bill is totally unrelated for the purposes of these projects themselves.

Mr. Speaker, as everyone knows, there is a limited pot of money available for all of our Federal programs. That includes in a very special way the

monies available for drinking water assistance. In fact, while the fund is authorized at \$1 billion annually, the administration budget provides only \$550 million next year, and the Republicans here cut \$100 million from that amount leaving a badly starved fund desperately needed by the States and local units of government for the improvement of drinking water safety for the people of this country.

Without some protections, some of the conferees may be tempted to divert some of the money from the drinking water fund so that pet projects selected for no reason other than the political value to particular Members will indeed be funded.

Luckily there is a modest sense of shame left in this body. The proponents of the raid have included language which provides that there will not be any luau, and for the benefit of my colleagues, that is a big Hawaiian dinner where roast pork is served as a principle diet, to consume this scrumptious pork unless and until the drinking water State revolving fund receives an appropriation equal to 75 percent of its authorization. That is the language that this motion addresses.

We are saying to our colleagues on the conference committee, do not make any changes in the firewall. At least have the shame not to go further.

I might add that this instruction becomes all the more crucial given the unprecedented structure that the leadership has created for this conference. In a movement that to the best of my knowledge has never seen any precedent in the House outside of tax legislation, the leadership will make the sponsors of these special projects the exclusive conferees on these provisions. That makes, in other words, the fox the guardian of the hen roost.

We ask the Parliamentarians to give us a list of the bills in this or other Congresses in which such extraordinary and remarkable appointments have been made naming as exclusive or even majority conferees a committee that was not the primary committee on the jurisdiction of the bill. Thus far we have been shown no other examples, and our research finds none. This leaves me to conclude that this was merely an exercise of raw and unadulterated power by the Speaker with no principle basis in the precedents of the House to support it. I trust therefore that it will lack future Presidential value.

What it means in practical terms is that there will be no conference report and no safe drinking water bill enacted into law until the conferees from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure have gotten everything they want. That is a holdup, and it is quite shameful.

I want to remind my colleagues we face a critical deadline on this bill. If it is not on the President's desk and signed into law by August 1, there will be a \$750 million loss in safe drinking water funds to several States. The

money will not disappear. It will simply spill over into the funding of the Clean Water Act. While I do not doubt that it could be put to good use there, I believe that our States and our local water systems and ultimately the ratepayers want this money used for the safe drinking water revolving fund established by this bill. Thus the sole guardians of the firewall provisions will be the very individuals whose projects received dollar one if the firewall is to be stripped out. I hope our colleagues on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure will work with us to ensure quick conference, a quick resolution and a fair and a proper result.

With the firewall in place, the revolving fund should be largely shielded; and with this motion to instruct, the firewall should remain in place. We would then hopefully have a bill that both sides of this House will be proud of. It will also be a bill that can and will be signed by the President.

We can still pass this bill by August 1. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this motion to instruct the conferees.

I reserve the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida [Mr. BILIRAKIS].

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. BLILEY] for yielding this time to me, and I rise to speak on the motion to instruct.

I think the motion reflects the understandings reached concerning the inclusion of title V within H.R. 3604, the bill to amend and reauthorize the Safe Drinking Water Act approved by the Commerce Committee.

In general, H.R. 3604 provides for a new State revolving fund—or SRF. The express purpose of the SRF is to provide loans and loan guarantees for expenditures that will facilitate compliance with national drinking water standards. SRF funds may only be used for compliance efforts or for other efforts that would significantly further the health protection objectives of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

EPA has estimated that \$8.6 billion is currently needed to bring public water systems into compliance with current standards. H.R. 3604 will go a long way toward meeting this need, but the fund needs to be insulated from demands which could compete with its basic purpose.

The language offered in the motion to instruct merely reflects the desire expressed by the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to similarly protect the SRF. Statutory language to this effect was included in H.R. 2747, a bill reported from the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to provide water supply infrastructure assistance. H.R. 3604 adopted nearly identical provisions. I therefore urge the adoption of the motion to instruct by the full House of Representatives.

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York [Mr. BOEHLERT], a member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

(Mr. BOEHLERT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

□ 1745

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, the gentleman's motion is a motion to instruct the House conferees to express the House position, a position developed by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, so it is always a pleasure for me to stand on the floor of this House and to thank my colleague, the distinguished gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL], when he is endorsing a position taken by the subcommittee that I am privileged to chair.

I do not have a problem with his language, not at all. Our committee included that language regarding the 75-percent trigger in the safe drinking water bill precisely to address the same type of concerns, real or perceived, that the gentleman has raised. Title V of the House-passed drinking water bill will supplement, not undermine, let me stress that, supplement, not undermine the State revolving fund.

Everyone agrees our priorities should be to capitalize the State revolving fund. The 75-percent trigger is just one of several safeguards to ensure this remains a priority.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I want to repeat, I am pleased to stand on this floor and thank the gentleman from Michigan, the senior Democrat on the Committee on Commerce, for recognizing the work of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. It is through these partnerships that we address a very important national problem and get some results.

I want to comfort my colleague by reminding him that there are no earmarks in this bill, that the funding is contingent upon Congress first appropriating adequate amounts for the State revolving fund, and the grants program is intended for hardship communities and areas. My distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Michigan, I think would agree that they are the communities that deserve the most consideration as we try to go forward and guarantee a cleaner, safer, healthier environment for all Americans.

We have worked well together, and I am pleased to support the gentleman's instructions.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I urge an "aye" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska). Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to instruct offered by the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. STUPAK].

The motion to instruct was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the Chair appoints the following conferees:

From the Committee on Commerce, for consideration of the Senate bill (except for sections 28(a) and 28(e)) and the House amendment (except for title V), and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. BLILEY, BILIRAKIS, CRAPO, BILBRAY, DINGELL, WAXMAN, and STUPAK.

From the Committee on Commerce, for consideration of sections 28(a) and 28(e) of the Senate bill, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. BLILEY, BILIRAKIS, and DINGELL.

As additional conferees from the Committee on Science, for consideration of that portion of section 3 that adds a new section 1478 and sections 23, 25(f), and 28(f) of the Senate bill, and that portion of section 308 that adds a new section 1452(n) and section 402 and title VI of the House amendment, and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. WALKER, ROHRBACHER, and ROEMER.

As additional conferees from the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for the consideration of that portion of section 3 that adds a new section 1471(c) and sections 9, 17, 22(d), 25(a), 25(g), 28(a), 28(e), 28(h), and 28(i) of the Senate bill, and title V of the House amendment and modifications committed to conference: Messrs. SHUSTER, BOEHLERT, WAMP, BORSKI, and MENENDEZ, provided, Mr. BLUTE is appointed in lieu of Mr. WAMP for consideration of title V of the House amendment.

There was no objection.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 3230) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto, disagree to the Senate amendment, and agree to the conference asked by the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT OFFERED BY MR. DELLUMS
Mr. DELLUMS. Mr. Speaker, I offer a motion to instruct.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mr. DELLUMS moves that the managers on the part of the House at the conference on