



March 12, 2026

RE: *Special District Fairness and Accessibility Act (H.R. 2766) - Upcoming Committee Vote*

Dear Members of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee:

As you know, the bipartisan *Special District Fairness and Accessibility Act* (H.R. 2766) is slated to be marked up in the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform on March 18th. On behalf of the National Special Districts Association (NSDA), I'm writing to urge you to vote in favor of the bill, which is of critical importance to special districts across the country.

H.R. 2766 would establish a first-ever, formal definition of "special district" in federal law. Additionally, the legislation would direct the White House Office of Management and Budget to issue guidance to federal agencies requiring special districts to be recognized as local governments for the purpose of federal financial assistance determinations. Notably, and in a demonstration of the bill's widespread bipartisan appeal, an identical version of the legislation was approved on a 38-2 vote by the Oversight Committee in the 119th Congress.

Special districts are local governments created by the people of a community to deliver specialized services essential to their health, safety, economy, and well-being. Nationwide, there are roughly 40,000 special districts that provide a broad range of public services, including fire protection, drinking water and wastewater services, healthcare, transit, natural resource conservation, mosquito abatement, and more.

Despite the prevalence of special districts throughout the United States, federal law lacks a consistent definition of special purpose units of local government. As a result, some special districts face challenges in accessing federal funding opportunities and are commonly omitted from the definition of eligible units of local government in legislative proposals that authorize federal programs and funding. Moreover, special districts lack official population figures and are therefore not recognized by the U.S. Census Bureau as "geographic units of government." As a result, special districts are unable to gain access to certain formula-driven grants and resources.

The *Special District Fairness and Accessibility Act* represents a commonsense effort that would define special districts in a clear and consistent way and ensure that special districts have the same access to federal resources as other units of local government. Again, NSDA urges you to vote in favor of this important bipartisan bill, and we look forward to working with you to ensure that the legislation is enacted into law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ann A. Terry". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ann Terry
Chair, National Special Districts Association
CEO, Special District Association of Colorado

cc: Representative Pat Fallon
Representative Brittany Pettersen