

Thank you Mr. Chair,

Today is about protecting public health and ensuring clean water is affordable for all of us. These bills address PFAS contamination in our water systems, replace all lead service lines in the country, and establish a water bill assistance program for low-income customers.

In the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress I co-led an amendment with Representative Tlaib on the PFAS infrastructure grant program to ensure communities hit first and worst by pollution are a priority for funding, not an afterthought. I am glad to see our amendment for disproportionately exposed communities is in the PFAS Action Act.

Finally, the Low-Income Water Customer Assistance Programs Act will establish water bill assistance programs for low-income customers. This is meeting an important need in my district, one of the poorest in California.

We saw how important water assistance programs in the pandemic relief bills were for low-income communities and communities of color during the pandemic. Just as we have energy bill assistance programs for low-income residents, we need water bill assistance to help ensure no one has their water shut off because they can't afford to pay.

Clean water is a human right, and these programs will bring our country closer to treating it that way.

I yield back.