House Energy and Commerce Committee Subcommittee on Environment and Climate Change Markup on Water Legislation June 16, 2021

Opening Statement

- I'd like to thank the Chairman and Ranking Member for scheduling this markup. I'm glad to see that access to clean drinking water remains a top priority for this committee.
- As you can imagine, water is a very important issue for families in Arizona.
- Maintaining our water supply becomes harder every year as we feel the effects of climate change.
- Adding to these problems are environmental hazards that contaminate sources of water on tribal lands, in rural areas, and in our cities.
- For example, the city of Tucson recently announced that the water treatment plant that has been servicing the area for 27 years will be shut down.

- They can no longer guarantee the safety of the drinking water coming from this plant due to the presence of PFAS.
- Communities like Tucson have been fighting for years to clean up PFAS and other harmful chemicals. They need our support.
- That's why I support the bipartisan PFAS Action Act, and I hope we can once again get this bill passed with votes from both sides of the aisle.
- This bill would require EPA to regulate PFAS and help fund clean-up efforts.
- By requiring the EPA to create new drinking water standards for PFAS, we can protect families and ensure safer drinking water for all.
- The bill provides some financial support for cities like Tucson, which has been locally funding PFAS cleanup projects for years.

- I'd like to see us do even more to help Tucson and other communities which have been severely impacted by PFAS contamination.
- There are also important industries, such as the production of medical devices and semiconductors, that could be impacted by this bill. I hope we will continue to consider how this bill will affect these industries.
- This is a very important topic, and I urge my colleagues to keep working in a bipartisan spirit to get this bill to the President's desk.
- I yield back.