Dear Senator XX:

As your constituent, I respectfully request your support for S.2579, the bipartisan Drinking Water Safety and Infrastructure Act.

As a member of the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA), I am keenly aware of the right way to protect our nation’s water and the health of the American people. This is why I believe S.2579 is an excellent first step toward protecting and securing our nation’s water.

The crisis in Flint, Michigan — as I’m sure you are aware — has highlighted the fragility of our nation’s water system and the devastating effects of lead poisoning and legionella disease.

This critical legislation provides additional resources to existing programs at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to protect children from lead exposure. The bill would also provide additional funding for the Health Resources and Services Administration’s Healthy Start Program. It also provides funding for the Department of Health and Human Services to assist with health monitoring in communities. Finally, the bill would require the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, within 15 days, to notify the public of dangerous lead levels in the water system if the state or public water system fails to do so.

As environmental health providers, we know it will take targeted investment to ensure that all our water systems provide safe and usable water. S.2579 is just that — a targeted investment in public health and prevention for our water supply. Your support at this time is critical, and we hope that you will support this important legislation today.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]