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SWIC Applauds PAB Legislation in 114th Congress Reps. Duncan and Pascrell Introduce Sustainable Water Infrastructure Investment Act

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Washington, D.C. – The Sustainable Water Infrastructure Coalition (SWIC) applauds the introduction of the Sustainable Water Infrastructure Investment Act, which would remove water and wastewater projects from private activity bond (PAB) state volume caps, encouraging public-private partnerships and enabling private capital investment in aging water and sewer infrastructure across the nation.

Rep. John "Jimmy" Duncan (R-Tenn.), who introduced the legislation with longtime PAB champion Rep. Bill Pascrell (D-N.J.), underscored the pressing need for innovative financing for America's environmental infrastructure.

"Much of our Nation's water infrastructure is more than 100-years old, and this bill will empower more states and towns to raise the funds needed to address this growing problem," Duncan said. "Our Nation's health, quality of life, and economic well-being rely on adequate wastewater treatment and access to clean water."

Rep. Duncan was named Vice Chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure in the 114th Congress and SWIC looks forward to helping him advance this legislation in conjunction with pending surface transportation legislation and other infrastructure measures. Rep. Pascrell's tireless advocacy as a member of the House Ways and Means Committee will continue to ensure PAB language is considered in a range of bills deliberated by the tax panel.

"Our common sense solution not only invests in our nation's aging infrastructure, but it creates good paying construction jobs that are literally beneath our feet in a way that costs the taxpayers very little," Pascrell said. "It's a win for our infrastructure, our environment and our economy."

The legislation would generate as much as \$5 billion annually in private capital for water and wastewater projects with a marginal loss of federal tax revenue. PABs encourage state and municipal governments to collaborate with sources of private capital to meet a public need. The public-private partnership approach makes infrastructure repair and construction more affordable for municipalities and ultimately for users or customers.

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Based in Washington, D.C., the Sustainable Water Infrastructure Coalition is a group of over 40 corporations, national and state associations, labor unions, and public entities working collectively in increase private sector investment in water infrastructure markets across America.