

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 2, 2016

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Democratic Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker of the  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Democratic Leader  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Democratic Leader Reid, Speaker Ryan, and Democratic Leader Pelosi:

We write to express our concern that an important Buy America provision for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) has been struck from the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) conference report to be considered by the House and Senate. This provision (Section 7117 of S. 2848) was approved by the Senate with broad bipartisan support, and we urge you to ensure that it is included in the final WRDA bill.

Section 7117 of the Senate bill would codify the Buy America procurement preference for American-made iron and steel products that has been applied to the DWSRF for many years through annual appropriations to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The language would ensure that the DWSRF is subject to the same Buy America policies permanently applied to the EPA's other federal-aid water infrastructure spending programs, the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Program.

Buy America is an important job-creating provision. If subject to the Buy America provisions, DWSRF-funded infrastructure projects will be required to use American iron and steel. As a result, companies will have incentives to invest in domestic manufacturing facilities, and U.S. taxpayer dollars will support American manufacturers.

Removing the Buy America provisions from the DWSRF will have the opposite effect. Without domestic content requirements, foreign companies will reap the advantages of U.S. taxpayer spending at the expense of taxpaying U.S. iron and steel producers and workers across the country. An opportunity to support and grow U.S. manufacturers will be squandered.

The American people spoke clearly in this past election that they want leaders who fight for the working class and who advance policies that create more jobs and grow the U.S. manufacturing

sector. We urge you to heed their voices in the WRDA negotiations and ensure the DWSRF Buy America provisions are incorporated in the final bill.

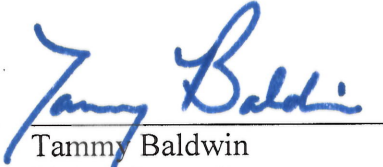
Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator



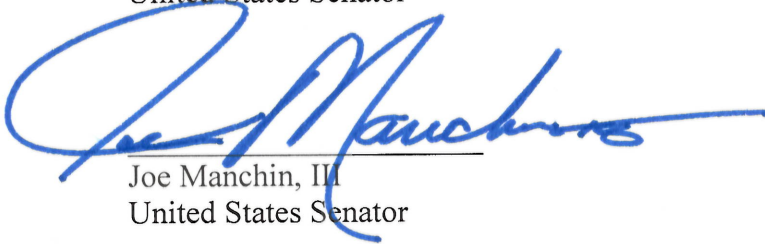
Rob Portman  
United States Senator



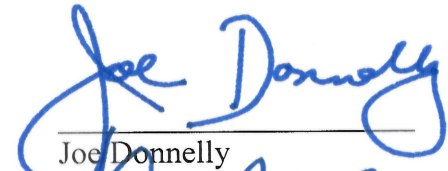
Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator



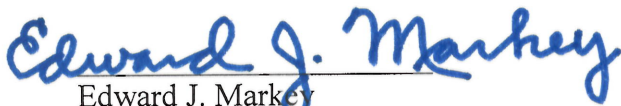
Kirsten E. Gillibrand  
United States Senator



Joe Manchin, III  
United States Senator



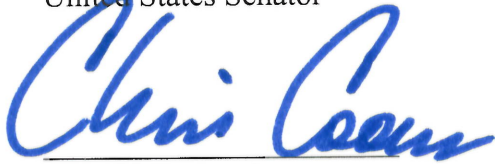
Joe Donnelly  
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator



Christopher Murphy  
United States Senator



Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator



Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



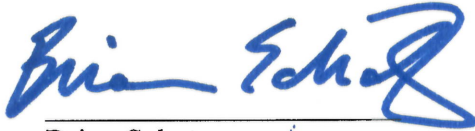
Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



Brian Schatz  
United States Senator



Claire McCaskill  
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Jeff Merkley  
United States Senator



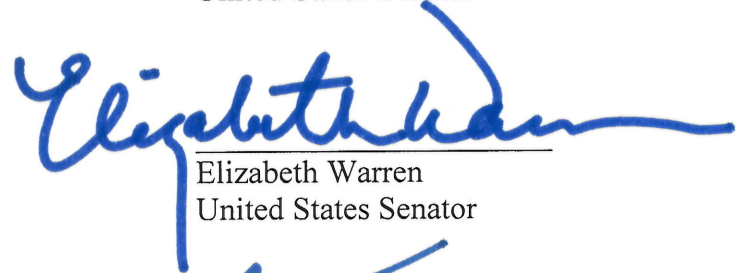
Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator



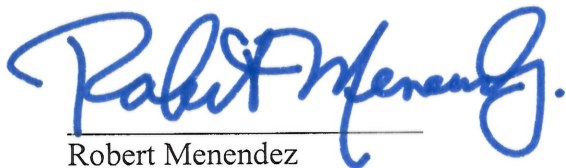
Al Franken  
United States Senator



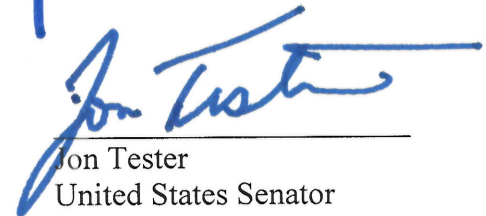
Patty Murray  
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator



Robert Menendez  
United States Senator



Jon Tester  
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator