

September 30, 2016 – VOLUME 13, ISSUE 9

How to Be an Involved Constituent: Town Hall Meetings

With presidential and congressional elections looming, it is as important as ever for industry leaders to engage directly with their elected officials and candidates for office. Getting personal time is the best way to help sort out who will be the best advocate for your needs – and therefore deserves your vote – as well as ensure your elected representatives understand your needs.

Many representatives or their supporters host town hall or other community meetings, especially during campaigns. These forums provide an opportunity to gain insight into your representative's priorities as well as his or her position on national, international and community issues and. Similarly, challenger candidates host regular public events. These gatherings are a chance to initiate meaningful dialogue.



To get information on events scheduled or occurring in your area, contact the staff at the district or local campaign office. You may also learn of an event through your local paper, newscast or congressional office's or campaign's newsletter or website.

When attending a town hall meeting, be prepared to make the most of the event. Here are a few suggestions:

- **Speak Up and Be Prepared.** Be ready to ask thoughtful, concise questions. Have data to support your concerns and positions. This will ensure you are remembered by the representative and staff.
- **Make it Personal.** It is important to establish yourself not just as a constituent but as a representative of other voters. Tell your representative about your company – the type of work it does and number employees. Know how a policy will affect you or your family, business or community and provide firsthand accounts of that impact.
- **Talk to Staff.** Members usually bring several members of their staff to meetings. Be sure to interact with them, particularly if you are unable to interact with the representative. In all cases, obtain their business cards or at write down names, titles and contact information.
- **Leave Paper.** Create a company profile or gather together existing literature about your business. Provide it to the representative, candidate or one of their staff members, along with any documents that support your position or concerns.
- **Follow Up.** Be persistent (but also polite) in following up with after an in-person event. Remember that creating a dialogue is only the first step, maintaining that dialogue is key.
- **Attend Multiple Events.** Also have other people from your company attend meetings, so that the representative can hear about the issue from multiple voices with the same concerns.

Use in-person events to form relationships. The more often you are seen and heard, the more likely the member will heed your concerns. Town hall meetings are a good way to stay in touch with your elected officials and keep yourself updated on what action being taken by your government, be it local, state or federal.

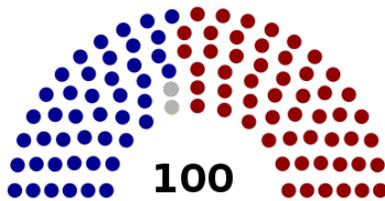
To find your sitting representative and senators, visit ofmk.freeenterpriseaction.com/9avEPgM. On the upper right-hand side, you can find your legislators by entering your address and zip code.

The search will bring up your representatives and senators. Clicking on respective links allows you to view a background and contact information page for each of your elected officials, including websites, Twitter and Facebook pages and Washington, D.C. contact info.

Calling All Political Pundits

With Election Day fast approaching, our televisions have become clogged with pundits preaching predictions for Nov. 8. Join the fun – camera crew and makeup not required – and see how your picks stack up against others in the concrete pressure pipe industry.

The association's election year contest is back. Do you have what it takes to be ACPPA's 2016 Pundit of the Year? Put your skills to the test by visiting www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016ACPPAPundits.



For this election, ACPPA's government affairs team is focusing on the U.S. Senate, which currently has 54 Republicans, 44 Democrats and two independents (both caucus with the Democrats). After swinging back to GOP control in 2014, tumult on the top of the Republican ticket has put the majority in doubt. We've chosen ten of the closest Senate races to test your prognostication abilities.

Of course, no political prediction would be complete without a presidential selection; you'll get started by picking who you think will be the next occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Remember to pick who you think is the likely winner and not necessarily the candidate for whom you plan to vote.

We're not ignoring the House of Representatives altogether: your final challenge will be to predict the total number of seats the Republicans will hold after the votes are tallied. (All 435 seats in the House are up for election.) You'll get to answer the same question for the Senate, where 34 of the 100 seats are up.

Choose who you think will win – see if you have what it takes to be the 2016 Pundit of the Year.



[Click here to cast your \[predictive\] votes.](#)

Canadian Insight from the Chamber's Greer

Actionline recently caught up with Ryan Greer, director of transportation and infrastructure policy for the [Canadian Chamber of Commerce \(CCC\)](#). As Americans focus on upcoming November elections, Greer provided insight into infrastructure needs and the health of his nation's industrial community.

Actionline: A recent CCC report, [The Infrastructure that Matters Most](#), highlights the fact that Canada's transport infrastructure requires significant investment to maintain its trade competitiveness in international markets. What policies is the CCC pushing to increase infrastructure investment?

The first policy we're pushing is that trade-enabling infrastructure must be an equal priority in the federal government's long-term infrastructure plan. The government has made a commitment of \$60 billion in new funding over the next decade for green, social and transit infrastructure (\$20 billion each), and while the Chamber is strongly supportive of those investments we believe the overall plan would be more balanced with an equal emphasis on export infrastructure. After all, trade-enabling infrastructure is the category of infrastructure that has the strongest connection to Canada's long-term global competitiveness and economic well-being.

The Chamber is also recommending the government renew the federal commitment to Canada's trade corridors. One of the many successful features of Canada's previous trade infrastructure programs, such as the [Asia-Pacific Gateway and Corridor Initiative](#), was the establishment of criteria that recognized gateways, corridors and border crossings as the premise for investment in our priority trade and transportation infrastructure. A renewed policy commitment to trade corridors will help improve the efficiency of supply chains and increase Canada's overall competitiveness in global markets.

We also continue to remind the government that Canada's infrastructure challenges will not be addressed through public sector investment alone. There are a broad range of private sector-led transportation and export infrastructure projects across the country that are being delayed due to political or regulatory hurdles. These are often large projects that do not require public funding and will generate jobs and other significant long-term economic benefits, but they are progressing slowly or not at all because of increasing risk aversion from regulators, shifting political priorities and issues around social license. In some cases, delays have meant Canadian projects have lost the race to supply growing markets. Not only is this creating a burden on Canadian business, it is undermining our reputation with investors as a country with a stable legal regime, a key competitive advantage when attracting international investment. Part of the federal infrastructure agenda must help 'unlock' this private-sector investment.

Actionline: Prime Minister Trudeau's government has now been in place for nearly nine months. What has been the new government's reception to the business community's priorities?

We're very much in a wait-and-see mode as the government is still in the midst of planning how to implement large chunks of their economic agenda. To their credit, the government has been very open to meeting and consulting with the Chamber and our members as they decide how to proceed in a number of different areas such as innovation and infrastructure. We'll get better idea of how they have received the



Ryan Greer is the director of transportation and infrastructure policy for the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. For more information, visit www.chamber.ca.

Chamber's priorities starting this fall and into the next federal budget in early 2017 as the government shifts from consultation to implementation.

Actionline: *Are there any positive signs that lawmakers are indicating willingness to provide solutions to meet water infrastructure and surface transportation needs?*

Yes. Although we're still waiting to see phase two of the federal infrastructure plan, phase one had more immediate spending for a number of municipal priorities, which included \$2 billion to improve the reliability of drinking water and wastewater and storm water systems and \$1.8 billion for strengthening reserve water and waste water infrastructure. Water infrastructure is likely to remain a priority in phase two of green infrastructure investments. Surface transportation needs remain atop provincial infrastructure demands and we expect public infrastructure programs to lead to increasing investment in surface transportation, like the announcement this summer of \$583 million in federal funding for the Calgary ring road.

Actionline thanks Mr. Greer for his time and insight. The views expressed in this interview are Mr. Greer's and do not necessarily reflect those of ACPPA.

Construction Industry Urges Congress to Tackle Skilled Worker Shortage

On Sept. 8, ACPPA joined 25 other construction industry organizations in signing a letter to House leadership calling for swift passage of the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (H.R. 5587), bipartisan legislation that reforms, modernizes and reauthorizes the Carl D. Perkins Act.



[Click here to view the letter.](#)

[See following story for more on H.R. 5587.]

The groups told lawmakers that, "By making technical education a priority, Congress can help better prepare workers for well-paying careers, ensure that U.S. companies are able to seize new business opportunities and make the United States more competitive in the global economy. Businesses, schools and government officials must collectively commit to tackling the technical education crisis at all levels, and you can take a great step towards enabling that commitment by passing H.R. 5587."

In addition to ACPPA, the following organizations signed the letter:

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| <i>American Concrete Pipe Association</i> | <i>American Concrete Pavement Association</i> | <i>National Roofing Contractors Association</i> |
| <i>American Institute of Steel Construction</i> | <i>Association</i> | <i>Association</i> |
| <i>American Rental Association</i> | <i>Concrete Reinforcing Steel Institute</i> | <i>National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association</i> |
| <i>American Road & Transportation Builders Association</i> | <i>Distribution Contractors Association</i> | <i>Association</i> |
| <i>American Supply Association</i> | <i>Heating, Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration Distributors International</i> | <i>National Utility Contractors Association</i> |
| <i>American Traffic Safety Services Association</i> | <i>Mason Contractors Association of America</i> | <i>Portland Cement Association</i> |
| <i>Associated Equipment Distributors Association of Equipment Manufacturers</i> | <i>National Asphalt Pavement Association</i> | <i>Power and Communication Contractors Association</i> |
| <i>Air Conditioning Contractors of America</i> | <i>National Association of Manufacturers</i> | <i>Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute</i> |
| <i>American Coal Ash Association</i> | <i>National Ground Water Association</i> | |
| | <i>National Ready Mixed Concrete Association</i> | |

Congress Considers ACPPA-Supported Workforce, Water Infrastructure Bills

ACPPA's 2016 legislative priorities are moving closer to the finish line as the House approved legislation reauthorizing federal career technical education programs and the Senate passed legislation to fund Army Corps of Engineer construction programs and invest in underground water infrastructure.

Perkins Act Reauthorization

On Sept. 13, the House overwhelmingly approved ([405-5](#)), the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (H.R. 5587), legislation that modernizes, reforms and reauthorizes the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act. The Perkins Act is the federal government's primary vehicle for investment in CTE programs and is long-overdue for update. H.R. 5587 contains many ACPPA-supported workforce priorities, including:

- Aligning CTE programs to the needs of the regional, state and local labor markets.
- Supporting effective and meaningful collaboration between secondary and postsecondary institutions and employers.
- Increasing student participation in work-based learning opportunities.
- Promoting the use of industry recognized credentials and other recognized post-secondary credentials.

[See previous story for more on ACPPA's efforts in support of H.R. 5587.]

The legislation now heads to the Senate where the association will press for action before the end of the year.

Water Resources Development Act

Meanwhile, the Senate was also hard at work finalizing a Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) (S. 2848), legislation investing in Army Corps of Engineers projects, such as building, maintaining and improving harbors, dams, locks and navigation channels. Additionally, S. 2848 provides about \$270 million in mandatory funds for the EPA and other federal agencies to respond to drinking water emergencies and lead exposure, such as the Flint, Michigan situation.

The House is poised to approve its own WRDA bill (H.R. 5303), which is similar to the S. 2848, but doesn't include any funding for drinking water infrastructure, before recessing until after the election. Earlier in the month, ACPPA's government affairs office assisted Reps. Mark Sanford (R-S.C.) and Lois Frankel (D-Fla.) in gathering congressional support for a [letter](#) to House leadership urging that H.R. 5303 receive House floor consideration before Sept. 30. In total, 143 members of Congress joined the effort.

Following House passage, House and Senate leaders are expected to commence negotiations to reconcile differences between the chambers' WRDA proposals.

ACPPA will continue to keep the pressure on Congress to complete work on these important priorities before the end of 2016.

Pressure Pipe Post

ACPPA's Monthly Source for Industry News

September 2016

To keep members aware of the activities of government and standards organizations, we regularly sweep public databases and publications for the industry-specific terms indicated below. We then provide our members with links to documents identified in the search. Please note that in some cases the URLs may link to subscription-only databases. The purpose of this service is to identify emerging threats and trends as well as opportunities for collective action by ACPPA.

NEWS RESULTS

Clean Water & Wastewater

Why Did it Take a Dozen Years for Fresno's Leaders to Wake up to its Tainted-Water Problem?

09/24/2016 <http://www.fresnobee.com/news/local/article103786891.html>

On a hot summer evening in 2004, Mike Conner's 4-year-old daughter turned on the bath water in their northeast Fresno home and let out a scream. "Eww!" he recalls her yelling. "I thought there was a big spider in there, or something," Conner remembers. "Well, I go in there, and the water is coming out brown ... that's when it started, and it's been going on, well, almost 12 years to the day."

Safety of Drinking Water Tops List of Water Infrastructure Concerns, PMI Survey Finds

09/22/2016 <http://www.financialbuzz.com/safety-of-drinking-water-tops-list-of-water-infrastructure-concerns-pmi-survey-finds-565089>

The safety of drinking water tops the list of concerns relating to water infrastructure expressed by 1,000 respondents to a Google survey conducted by Plumbing Manufacturers International.

As Other Cities Dig up Pipes Made of Toxic Lead, Chicago Resists

09/21/2016 <http://www.democraticunderground.com/10028177736>

As cities across the nation overhaul their aging, increasingly fragile drinking water systems, some municipal leaders are digging deeper to erase a toxic legacy that endangers millions of Americans: lead water pipes connecting homes to street mains.

Family Home Sits on Pool of Raw Sewage, Lawsuit Claims

09/20/2016 http://tucson.com/news/family-home-sits-on-pool-of-raw-sewage-lawsuit-claims/article_f242fadc-ee5a-5eb8-933c-72a7d1fa0c5e.html

A Marana couple who say they unknowingly lived above a growing pool of raw sewage for six years is suing the town of Marana and a homebuilding company for negligence.

Up to 600,000 Gallons of Sewage Overflow into Huron River in Ann Arbor

09/19/2016 http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2016/09/up_to_600000_gallons_of_sewage.html

Ann Arbor officials estimate up to 600,000 gallons of sewage reached the Huron River during another overflow event. A sanitary sewer overflow was discovered in a construction area on Geddes Avenue near the entrance to Gallup Park at about 7 a.m. Monday, Sept. 19.

Chemicals In Drinking Water Prompt Inspections Of U.S. Military Bases

09/15/2016 <http://wyomingpublicmedia.org/post/chemicals-drinking-water-prompt-inspections-us-military-bases>

Health workers are piecing together a complicated puzzle in El Paso County, Colo. In January, three cities — Security, Fountain and Widefield — noticed synthetic chemicals known as PFCs in the drinking water.

India Faces Challenges with Water Testing, Purification

09/15/2016 <http://www.foodqualityandsafety.com/article/india-faces-challenges-water-testing-purification/>

Access to clean drinking water is a human right, however, providing safe drinking water to India's teeming millions is a challenge of no small proportion. According to a report by WaterAid, an international organization working to provide water sanitation and hygiene, more than 80 percent of India's surface water is polluted.

Clean Water & Wastewater**Sonar Altimeter Data Help in Fly Ash Pond Dewatering Project**

09/23/2016 <http://www.fondriest.com/news/sonar-altimeter-data-help-fly-ash-pond-dewatering-project.htm>

Fly ash ponds can be dangerous to surrounding soils and waterways if they're not constructed correctly. But even if they're built with linings of clay soils or membranes, there is still need to manage their functions to ensure that what they hold — byproducts of coal burning — stays put.

The Senate is About to Kill Efforts to Prevent More Coal Slurry Disasters

09/15/2016 <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/senate-kill-efforts-prevent-more-121000418.html>

The stories of massive spills of sludge and fly ash from processing or burning coal in West Virginia and other parts of Appalachia are legion – and frightening.

Fly Ash Pits Present Unique Challenge for Thruway

09/15/2016 http://www.dailyitem.com/news/snyder_county/fly-ash-pits-present-unique-challenge-for-thruway/article_9299277d-db99-57bf-88c3-cd017e84e6b9.html

Two ash basins in Shamokin Dam filled with a by-product of burning coal for six decades is presenting a challenge for PennDOT officials designing the southern section of the \$670 million Central Susquehanna Valley Thruway.

Report Outlines Challenges to Recycling North Carolina Coal Ash

09/14/2016 <http://southeastenergynews.com/2016/09/14/report-outlines-challenges-to-recycling-north-carolina-coal-ash/>

A long-awaited report presents a conundrum for coal ash recycling in North Carolina. As Duke Energy, the state's largest utility, works to meet state requirements to safely dispose of coal ash, there is a ready market for concrete producers, who currently import much of their fly ash from overseas.

Infrastructure Investment

Clinton's Water Plan Runs Up Hill(ary) Towards Money"

09/26/2016 <http://beforeitsnews.com/environment/2016/09/clintons-water-plan-runs-up-hillary-towards-money-2562910.html>

"In California, they say: 'water runs uphill toward money.' To that, now should be added the adage: 'Water runs up-Hillary to money'."

FACT SHEET: Announcing Over \$80 million in New Federal Investment and a Doubling of Participating Communities in the White House Smart Cities Initiative

09/26/2016 <http://beforeitsnews.com/obama/2016/09/fact-sheet-announcing-over-80-million-in-new-federal-investment-and-a-doubling-of-participating-communities-in-the-white-house-smart-cities-initiative-2477287.html>

With nearly two-thirds of Americans living in urban settings, many of our fundamental challenges—from climate change to equitable growth to improved health—will require our cities to be laboratories for innovation.

The Time to Invest in America's Water Infrastructure is Now

09/07/2016 <http://www.mswmag.com/blog/2016/09/the-time-to-invest-in-americas-water-infrastructure-is-now>

Communities across the country are facing the immediate challenges of aging and inadequate drinking water and wastewater infrastructure. Most of our country's underground water infrastructure was built 50 or more years ago, and in some older cities, water mains are a century old.

Council to Consider Applying For State Water, Sewer Grants For North End Project

09/07/2016 <http://www.islandgazette.net/news-10/index.php/news/local-news1/item/4852-council-to-consider-applying-for-state-water-sewer-grants-for-north-end-project>

The Carolina Beach Town Council will consider a proposal at their upcoming September 13th, meeting to apply for two infrastructure grants to address aging water and sewer lines along Florida, Georgia, Virginia, Delaware and Maryland Avenues and Carolina Beach Ave. North From Salt Marsh Lane to Sea Oats Lane.

Water and Underground Infrastructure

\$4.2M Water, Storm Drain Project to Begin in Suisun City

09/25/2016 <http://www.dailyrepublic.com/news/fairfield/4-2m-water-storm-drain-project-to-begin-in-suisun-city/>

Work on a \$4.2 million water pipeline and storm drain along Railroad Avenue in Suisun City is scheduled to begin Tuesday and will affect traffic flow in the area.

Allegheny Valley Sewage Authority Awards Contracts

09/23/2016 <http://triblive.com/news/valleynewsdispatch/11180865-74/authority-sewage-pipe>

The Allegheny Valley Joint Sewage Authority board awarded contracts for nearly \$2 million worth of work at or near its treatment plant in Harmar.

Cheaper Option Feasible for RRV Water Project

09/23/2016 <http://www.jamestownsun.com/news/state/4121540-cheaper-option-feasible-rrv-water-project>

Officials spearheading a decades old effort to divert Missouri River water to eastern North Dakota during droughts said they've revived a cheaper water intake option as their preferred alternative and will scale back their request for state funding in light of slumping tax revenues.

The Disintegration of U.S. Infrastructure: Quarter Million Water Main Breaks A Year

09/22/2016 <http://www.zerohedge.com/news/2016-09-22/disintegration-us-infrastructure-quarter-million-water-main-breaks-year?>

The United States is sitting on top of a massive amount of aging infrastructure that continues to disintegrate at an alarming rate. According to the American Society of Civil Engineers, the U.S. suffers from 240,000 water main breaks a year. That's roughly 700 water main breaks each day.

Water Officials Say Infrastructure Needs to be Updated Now or Pay Steep Cost Down the Road

09/21/2016 <http://fox2now.com/2016/09/21/water-officials-say-infrastructure-needs-to-be-update-now-or-pay-steep-cost-down-the-road/>

From a gas leak to a water main break in Maryland Heights; Wednesday 50 homes were without water due to a water main break on McKelvey road. This is a problem we are seeing more frequently and water industry leaders are talking about why it's crucial to address the problem now before it only gets worse.

Ribbon Cutting Held for South Valley Retention Pond

09/20/2016 <http://krqe.com/2016/09/20/ribbon-cutting-held-for-south-valley-retention-pond/>

The first phase of a project to reduce flooding problems in the South Valley has been completed.

New Information: Crews Resolve Cause of Breaks on Sewer Lines in Chippewa River

09/16/2016 <http://www.wqow.com/story/33112767/2016/09/16/new-information-crews-resolve-cause-of-breaks-on-sewer-lines-in-chippewa-river>

Earlier this summer, the river at Phoenix Park was closed to tubers and swimmers due to high bacteria levels. Now, the cause of the sewage leak in the Chippewa River has been determined.

Sewer Liner Installation a Tight Squeeze

09/15/2016 <http://www.pekintimes.com/news/20160915/sewer-liner-installation-tight-squeeze>

The city of Pekin is lining a 24-inch sewer line, which for one man was a tight squeeze Wednesday when he went into the line to cut out openings for local business' hookups to the sewer system.

Crews Work to Repair Lake City Water Main Break

09/14/2016 <http://www.goerie.com/news/20160914/crews-work-to-repair-lake-city-water-main-break>

A large water main break Wednesday afternoon left many residents in the Lake City Borough area without water service or with very little water pressure, according to Erie County dispatch.

Water Main Broke, Repaired in Carbondale

09/07/2016 <http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/water-main-broke-repaired-in-carbondale-1.2087706>

A water main break in the city affected about 20 customers for a few hours Tuesday afternoon.

REGULATORY RESULTS**Water Infrastructure****Environmental Protection Agency | Notice | Information Collection Request Submitted to OMB for Review and Approval; Comment Request; EPA Application Materials for the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act**09/08/2016 <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-08/pdf/2016-21592.pdf>

The collection of information is necessary in order to receive applications for credit assistance pursuant to section 5024 of the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) of 2014

Water Supply**Susquehanna River Basin Commission | Proposed Rule | Review and Approval of Projects**09/21/2016 <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-21/pdf/2016-22668.pdf>

This document contains proposed rules that would amend the regulations of the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (Commission) to clarify application requirements and standards for review of projects, amend the rules dealing with the mitigation of consumptive uses, add a subpart to provide for registration of grandfathered projects, and revise requirements dealing with hearings and enforcement actions.

Department of Veterans Affairs | Proposed Rule | Diseases Associated with Exposure to Contaminants in the Water Supply at Camp Lejeune09/09/2016 <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2016-09-09/pdf/2016-21455.pdf>

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to amend its adjudication regulations relating to presumptive service connection to add certain diseases associated with contaminants present in the base water supply at U.S. Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune (Camp Lejeune), North Carolina, from August 1, 1953 to December 31, 1987.

LEGISLATIVE RESULTS**Drought****H.R. 6121 | Introduced by Rep. Capps, Lois (D-Calif.) | Climate Resiliency, Security, and Source Water Protection Act**09/22/2016 <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/6121>

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act with respect to climate resiliency, security, and source water protection planning, and for other purposes.

Water Infrastructure**H.R. 6116 | Introduced by Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. (D-N.J.) | Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 2016**09/22/2016 <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/6116>

To enable needed drinking water standards, reduce lead in drinking water, plan for and address threats from climate change, terrorism, and source water contamination, invest in drinking water infrastructure, increase compliance with drinking water standards, foster greater community right to know about drinking water quality, and promote technological solutions for drinking water challenges.

H.R. 6022 | Introduced by Rep. Denham, Jeff (R-Calif.) | New WATER Act09/14/2016 <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/6022>

To authorize a pilot project for an innovative water project financing program, and for other purposes.

Water Supply**S. 2902 | Introduced by Sen. Flake, Jeff (R-Ariz.) | Western Water Supply and Planning Enhancement Act of 2016**09/22/2016 <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/6116>

To provide for long-term water supplies, optimal use of existing water supply infrastructure, and protection of existing water rights.

