

Honorable Legislators,

As Mayor of the small city of Waterloo I am in favor of this bill.

Our city has one less than full time staff member to administer city business. Our city has not been able to pass a city property tax and the efforts to do so last voting session were abandoned due to the economic pressure already felt by our residents.

The truth is our city needs funds to secure safe water and septic/sewer options for our residents. Every summer water runs low in our city.

Additionally, our city residents are all on septic systems. At some point I am worried these two issues will collide. Our city hall also does not have restroom facilities or room to host the public during this pandemic. Social distancing is not possible due to the size of our city hall and our council and city recorders only restroom option is a portable toilet we have been renting for years.

With almost all funding sources requiring a percentage of the cost to buy into funding my city is falling behind. I support this legislation to help small cities get the help they need to secure resources to meet their basic needs.

Please pass this legislation. Our smallest cities need help and my city of Waterloo can not be the only one struggling with these issues.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Mayor Justin Cary