



January 16, 2025

Dear Chair Helms, Chair Owens, and Member of the Committee:

Our work through COSAP is restoring families' functionality of everyday life at their home. The funding that was being provided was keeping people from having their homes condemned in some situations due to unsanitary septic issues. Which in return if these funds would not have been available it would lead to homelessness. A septic system that has seen its life expectancy leads to a very unhealthy lifestyle. Such as not being able to shower, brush your teeth, wash dishes or even use their lavatory facilities. These are truly all things that our staff at J&S Drain Services have personally witnessed on many occasions.

It brings such joy to us as contractors, seeing the relief in people's faces knowing that we have saved the day for another family. This is all because of this program, serving so many rural communities in Central Oregon. There still are countless families that still need help in our area.

As a drain service septic company to give you a boot on the ground prospective we see these situations every day. We go to a home and their home is unfunctional. When you discuss the situation with homeowners who break down crying, upset, worried the list goes on as they don't know how they are going to fix the situation with no funds. Yes, we all know that people being homeowners need to be prepared but.... At the end of the day, we see probably 15% of homeowners in this situation have available funds to pay for new septic systems. We basically are first responders in the eye of public health. It's our job to keep the homeowner (family), the neighbor and surrounding people in the community healthy. Having a septic/sewer that is leaking out onto the ground and not being properly repaired is not healthy at all.

Thank you for listening to us regarding this matter and we truly hope that more funds will be distributed to help all the people in our communities.

Sincerely,
Shelly Collatt-Owner
J&S Drain Services
CCB#240102