Message

From: Purdy, Renee@Waterboards [Renee.Purdy@waterboards.ca.gov]
Sent: 7/30/2018 5:34:13 PM
To: Smith, DavidW [Smith.DavidW@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: House approves EPA stormwater funding study | InsideEPA.com

We certainly will want to participate. And, I hope one of the 'centers of excellence' would be located here in California.

From: Smith, DavidW [mailto:Smith.DavidW@epa.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 19, 2018 9:05 AM
To: Kihara, Annalisa@Waterboards <Annalisa.Kihara@waterboards.ca.gov>; Albrecht, Jeffrey@Waterboards <Jeffrey.Albrecht@waterboards.ca.gov>; Mumley, Thomas@Waterboards <Thomas.Mumley@waterboards.ca.gov>; Purdy, Renee@Waterboards <Renee.Purdy@waterboards.ca.gov>
Subject: FW: House approves EPA stormwater funding study | InsideEPA.com

FYSA- I hear this has a pretty good chance of being enacted. I would think CA might be pretty interested in participating if this happens.

https://insideepa.com/daily-feed/house-approves-epa-stormwater-funding-study

House approves EPA stormwater funding study

The House has approved by voice vote legislation that would require EPA to establish a stormwater infrastructure funding task force and produce a report within 18 months on ways to improve the availability of public and private sources of funding for stormwater infrastructure to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act.

H.R. 3906, introduced by Rep. Denny Heck (D-WA) and passed July 16, outlines several aspects of stormwater funding the task force is to examine. The task force is to be comprised of representatives from federal, state and local governments along with private, including nonprofit, entities.

Specifically, the task force is to examine how funding for stormwater infrastructure has been made available and utilized in each state, how the source of funding affects the affordability of the infrastructure, and whether these sources of funding are "sufficient to support capital expenditures and long-term operation and maintenance costs necessary to meet the stormwater infrastructure needs of municipalities."

The legislation, as introduced, would have created between three and five stormwater "centers of excellence" located in different regions of the country. The centers would have conducted research on innovative stormwater control infrastructure, developed manuals and best management practices, developed testing and evaluation protocols to verify the performance of stormwater infrastructure products and practices, and provided technical assistance to states and local governments, among other things.

The bill would also have authorized EPA grants to fund innovative stormwater control projects.

But in order to gain bipartisan support for the legislation, it was amended to focus on the creation of a task force, according to members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee who spoke on the House floor before the vote.

Rep. Grace Napolitano (D-CA), the top Democrat on the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee's water panel who helped develop the compromise legislation, said that "while I am disappointed that this legislation does not provide additional Federal resources so desperately needed to address our local water infrastructure challenges, the bill is a very good first step in further refining the scope of the stormwater challenges facing our Nation."

Napolitano said she expects the results of the task force will show the federal government needs to be an active player in financing affordable stormwater infrastructure.

Rep. Garret Graves (R-LA), the chairman of the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee, said the legislation recognizes the role stormwater runoff plays in contaminating the nation's waterways, "[b]ut it also recognizes that it is a problem that needs to be solved by local, by State, and by Federal agencies, by Federal officials."

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Sent from mobile device