

Sen. Agard: Applauds President Biden's bipartisan investment in clean drinking water, the state of Wisconsin must follow suit

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MADISON – The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law represents the largest investment in clean drinking water in American history, including the first-ever dedicated federal funding to replace lead service lines and address dangerous PFAS chemicals. Today, the Joint Finance Committee will vote on the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) funding, the state agency responsible for managing Wisconsin's air and water resources. Senator Agard calls upon the JFC to honor Governor Evers' budget proposal and follow the lead set by President Biden. Senator Agard released the following statement:

“Our state has nearly a \$7 billion surplus. We have the opportunity to build on President Biden's popular and successful bipartisan investment in clean drinking water. Today, I am calling upon the Joint Finance Committee to follow the example set by our President's historic investment and Governor Evers' significant budget proposal to ensure that every Wisconsinite has access to safe, potable drinking water.

“The Governor's budget proposal included Wisconsin-focused policies to prevent water contamination, remediate existing contaminants, and maintain high quality water moving forward. While I am disappointed that the Joint Finance Committee removed statewide PFAS standards from the state budget, they have the opportunity to do right by Wisconsinites today and fully fund the Governor's thoughtful investments in our state's waterways.

“From provisions to test and treat PFAS and replace lead service laterals to the Well Compensation Grant Program and urban nonpoint source bonding, the JFC must take decisive action today to ensure that every community, urban and rural alike, has clean drinking water flowing into their homes.”