America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018
S. 3021: an act to provide for improvements to rivers and harbors in the United States

Bill at a glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introduced</td>
<td>6/07/18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passed Senate</td>
<td>9/04/18</td>
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<td>Passed House</td>
<td>9/13/18</td>
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<td>To president</td>
<td>10/12/18</td>
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<td>Signed into law</td>
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Bill overview

- The bipartisan water infrastructure bill is the most comprehensive infrastructure legislation passed in the 115th Congress
- Reauthorization occurs every two years; the current iteration will authorize $6 billion in federal funding for infrastructure and conservation projects in US ports, harbors and waterways
- In addition to reauthorizing existing programs, this bill authorizes several new initiatives, such as a federal program to improve drinking water infrastructure at the state level
- Expands the Safe Drinking Water Act to include corrosion control efforts

The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 (WIFIA)

- This bill reauthorizes WIFIA at $50 million annually for two years and removes its designation as a pilot program
- WIFIA is a federal credit program organized by the EPA for water and wastewater infrastructure projects
- Eligible projects include those that address drinking water, water recycling, drought mitigation and several more

Army Corps of Engineers

- The bill extends responsibility for the Army Corps of Engineers to determine which water projects will receive funding
- Sect. 1208 directs the Corps to produce a report on activities relating to the use of innovative materials in water resources development projects for Congress
- Sect. 2012 encourages the use of asset management by drinking water delivery systems:
  - It requires states to include how they will encourage and assist in the use of asset management best practices in their Capacity Development Strategy (CDS)
  - States’ CDS reports must detail efficacy and progress made on efforts to develop asset management plans

History of the bill

- Bill started as a federal office naming bill to designate a courthouse in Minneapolis as the “Diana E. Murphy United States Courthouse”
- The Senate Water Resource Development Act (WRDA) was attached to the bill, though language for the renaming remained
- The bill includes compromise language between the previously introduced Senate and House WRDAs (H.R. 8) and (S. 2800)

Sources: Congress.gov, S.3021 America’s Water Infrastructure Act of 2018; Emily Birnbaum, “Trump poised to sign bipartisan water infrastructure bill,” The Hill, October 10, 2018; Julie Ufner and Zach George, “Bipartisan water infrastructure bill approved by Congress, heads to President’s desk,” NACO, October 11, 2018; “America’s Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) of 2018 Section-by-Section,” House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee.