

Innovative Water Infrastructure Workforce Development Program: Senate Bill 2346



Walter Wright, Jr.
wwright@mwlaw.com
(501) 688.8839

03/05/2018

The National Association of Clean Water Agencies (“NACWA”) notes support of Senate Bill 2346 in a letter dated February 22nd.

Senate Bill 2346 has been introduced to establish an innovative infrastructure workforce development program.

The legislation was introduced by Senator Cory Booker (New Jersey) and Senator Shelley Moore Capito (West Virginia).

The NACWA states in part that the legislation would:

...directly help address the concerns of many clean water agencies regarding workforce development, high rate of attrition from an aging workforce, and the need to create more job opportunities for the communities that clean water utilities serve. Currently there is no federal workforce development program aimed at the water sector.

The February 22nd letter also notes the issue is important because of changes within the clean water infrastructure sector. Those include the need to:

- Optimize efficiency
- Recover valuable resources
- Contribute to the overall health of watersheds and water resource management

As a result, the need for a workforce that is “innovative and well-trained” is noted.

A copy of [Senate Bill 2346](#) and the [February 22 NACWA letter](#) can be found here.