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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOWRA Applauds Introduction of the Clean Water Allotment Modernization Act

Legislation Would Modernize Federal Clean Water Funding Formula to Better Reflect Today's Infrastructure Needs

WESTFORD, MA — The National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA) today applauded the introduction of the Clean Water Allotment Modernization Act, bipartisan legislation introduced by Senators Rick Scott (R-FL) and Mark Kelly (D-AZ) to modernize the Reagan-era formula used to distribute Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) dollars to states.

The legislation updates a funding formula that has remained largely unchanged since the program was established in 1987, replacing it with a modern, needs-based approach that better reflects current population, documented wastewater infrastructure needs, and economic burden. The bill also ensures that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Clean Watersheds Needs Survey—including documented decentralized wastewater infrastructure needs—is appropriately reflected in the allocation formula.

For NOWRA and the millions of Americans who rely on decentralized wastewater systems, the legislation represents an important step toward ensuring federal wastewater investments better align with today's infrastructure realities.

According to EPA's most recent Clean Watersheds Needs Survey, the nation faces approximately \$74 billion in documented decentralized wastewater infrastructure needs. Yet despite serving more than 85 million Americans (25 percent) and accounting for roughly 30 percent of new single-family home construction, decentralized wastewater systems currently receive less than one percent of Clean Water State Revolving Fund assistance.

"The Clean Water Allotment Modernization Act recognizes what EPA's own data have demonstrated for years—that decentralized wastewater systems are an essential part of America's wastewater infrastructure and should be reflected in how federal clean water funding is distributed," said Chris LeClair, President, National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association. "By modernizing a funding formula that has remained unchanged for nearly four decades, Congress has an opportunity to better align federal investment with documented infrastructure needs while helping states protect

public health, improve water quality, and support sustainable wastewater solutions for the millions of Americans who depend on decentralized systems."

NOWRA appreciates the leadership of Senators Scott and Kelly in advancing this bipartisan effort and thanks its members throughout the country whose advocacy and technical expertise have demonstrated the importance of ensuring decentralized wastewater infrastructure is appropriately recognized within the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

NOWRA urges Congress to advance the Clean Water Allotment Modernization Act and looks forward to continuing to work with lawmakers, federal agencies, and coalition partners to modernize federal wastewater policy and ensure funding decisions reflect today's documented infrastructure needs.

About NOWRA

The National Onsite Wastewater Recycling Association (NOWRA) is the nation's largest organization dedicated to the onsite and decentralized wastewater industry. NOWRA represents engineers, installers, manufacturers, suppliers, service professionals, regulators, and other wastewater professionals committed to advancing sustainable wastewater solutions that protect public health and the environment.

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