DANIEL T. KILDEE
5TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

COMMITTEE ON
FINANCIAL SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
HOUSING AND INSURANCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MONETARY POLICY AND TRADE

SENIOR WHIP

DEMOCRATIC POLICY AND
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

# Congress of the United States
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September 22, 2015

Secretary Sylvia Matthews Burwell
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
HHS Office of the Secretary
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, DC 20201

Administrator William Craig Fugate
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20472

Administrator Gina McCarthy
Environmental Protection Agency
Office of the Administrator 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Director Tom Frieden
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road
Atlanta, GA 30329

Secretary Burwell, Administrator McCarthy, Administrator Fugate and Director Frieden:

Recent developments regarding the level of lead in the water in one of the communities I represent, Flint, Mich., have raised significant concerns about the safety of its drinking water. For this reason, I am requesting immediate resources to provide safe drinking water to the residents of Flint until additional testing can be completed that confirms the water is safe, particularly for young children.

Although the city of Flint and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality have conducted tests and taken the position that the lead level in the water is safe and below the action level, there are significant questions about the efficacy of their testing. In fact, Dr. Marc Edwards of Virginia Tech University, an established drinking water expert, conducted his own tests as part of a study that determined the water in Flint was above the lead action level.

Additionally, yesterday the Greater Flint Health Coalition, a group of health professionals in the community, released a report showing elevated blood lead levels in residents in Flint, particularly in young children. In response, the Coalition has requested that the Genesee County Health Department release a health advisory indicating that the water in Flint is unsafe to drink.

Thus, I am requesting resources from your agency to provide clean drinking water to the residents of Flint until additional testing can determine when the water will be safe to drink and a long-term solution can be implemented.

This is a serious health issue, particularly for young children, and until the water is demonstrated to be safe, immediate action must be taken to ensure Flint's residents have potable drinking water.

I look forward to working with you and thank you for your immediate attention.

Sincerely,

Dan Kildee
MEMBER OF CONGRESS