

Fiscal Year 2020 RCAP Appropriations Requests

Request 1: HHS – Rural Community Facilities Technical Assistance

Subcommittee Information: Labor-HHS; Department of Health and Human Services

Account: Children and Families Services Programs

Title of Bill in which Program is Included: Section 680(a) (3) (B) of the Community Services Block Grant Act

Requested Amount for FY 2020: \$11 million

Requested BILL Language: *CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS*

.... and not less than \$11,250,000 shall be for section 680(a) (3) (B) of such Act...

Justification: Section 680 of the CSBG Act authorizes technical assistance for rural community facilities. The House FY 19 DoD- Labor HHS bill (H.R. 21) provided \$10 million for the program, which have gone to six regional organizations – called the RCAP Network to help small, poor, rural communities to improve water and wastewater facilities in their areas.

Under OCS Rural Communities Facilities Technical Assistance authority, RCAP provides assistance to residents in unserved and underserved populations, including isolated unincorporated communities, very small and very poor communities that cannot afford USDA loan/grant financing, communities that are seeking alternative sources of financing and those that lack central systems, and are therefore not regulated under the Clean Water Act or Safe Drinking Water Act.

President’s FY 20 request N/A

FY 19 Final DoD-Labor HHS Appropriations (HR 6157): \$10 million

FY 18 Final \$9 million, Consolidated Appropriations (HR 1625)

FY 17 Consolidated Appropriations (HR244); \$8 million

Fiscal Year	Bill Number	Division	Title	Section	Page Number
FY 2017	HR 244	H	II	Children and Families	399
FY 18	HR 1625	H	H	Children and Families	382
FY 19	HR 6157	B	II	Children and Families	104

Request 2: USDA – Rural Water & Wastewater

Subcommittee Information: Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies; U.S. Department of Agriculture

Account: Rural Water/Waste Water Technical Assistance

Title of Bill in which Program is Included: Section 306 of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act

Requested Amount for FY 2020: \$9 million

Requested Bill Language: ..., “of which \$9,000,000 shall be made available for a grant to a qualified non-profit multi-state regional technical assistance organization, with experience in working with small communities on water and waste water problems.”

Justification: The FY 19 Consolidated Appropriations Act (HR 21) provides \$8 million for multi-state regional assistance to communities with populations of 3,300 or less. These funds have gone to RCAP. Technical assistance provided by RCAP under this program is targeted to RUS water/wastewater loan and/or grant eligible communities and to small water/wastewater utilities. The proposed funding amount will allow RCAP to expand their assistance to very small rural communities, helping them to apply for USDA financing and better manage existing systems.

USDA is the single largest financier of rural water and wastewater systems, and RCAP plays an essential role in assisting communities with planning, developing and managing USDA-financed systems. RCAP provides technical assistance to those communities that are eligible for USDA water–sewer financing and those communities that have existing USDA-financed systems. RCAP coordinates with USDA state Rural Development offices, which provide RCAP with a target list of communities for technical assistance.

President’s FY2020 Request: N/A

FY 19 Final Consolidated Appropriations (HR31):
\$8 million

FY 18 Consolidated Appropriation Act HR 1625):
\$ 8 million

FY 17 Consolidated Appropriations (HR 244):
\$6.5 million

Fiscal Year	Bill Number	Division	Title	Section	Page Number
FY 17	HR 244	I	Rural Development	Rural Utilities Service (RUS)	23
FY18	HR 1625	A	Rural Development	RUS	24

FY 19	HR 31	B	Rural Development		359
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Request 3: EPA – Rural Community Technical Assistance

Subcommittee Information: Interior-Environment; Environmental Protection Agency

Account: Environmental Programs and Management – National Priorities – Rural Community Technical Assistance

Title of bill in which Program is Included: Section 1442(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act

Requested Amount for FY 2020: \$17.7 Million

Requested Bill Language: *Environmental Programs and Management. For section 1442(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act as amended, \$17,700,000, provided that such technical assistance under such section shall include be made available to private well owners.*

Requested Report Language: *Environmental Protection: National Priorities. —The bill provides \$17,700,000 for a competitive grant program to provide technical assistance for improved water quality or safe drinking water, adequate waste water to small systems or individual private well owners. The Agency shall provide \$15,000,00 for Grassroots Rural and Small Community Water Systems Assistance Act, for activities specified under Section 1442(e) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j–1(e)(8)). The Agency is also directed to provide \$1,700,000 for grants to qualified not-for-profit organizations for technical assistance for individual private well owners, with priority given to organizations that currently provide technical and educational assistance to individual private well owners. The Agency is directed to provide on a national and multi-State regional basis, \$1,000,000 for grants to qualified organizations excluding institutions of higher education, for the sole purpose of providing onsite training and technical assistance for wastewater systems. The Agency shall require each grantee to provide a minimum 10 percent match, including in kind.*

Justification: Requested Amount: EPA funding for RCAP is targeted to small systems that are out of compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, Clean Water Act, and to provide assistance to private well owners. RCAP provides technical assistance for system operators, board members, and managers of tribal and non-tribal small community and non-community water systems. The technical assistance is aimed at improving compliance, building capacity and reducing exposure to contaminants. RCAP’s technical assistance is targeted to public water systems that serve communities with a population of less than 10,000. The objective of the technical assistance to well owners is to protect the quality of well water by minimizing contamination.

President’s FY20 Request: N/A

FY 19 Consolidated Appropriations (HR31): \$15 million

FY 18 Consolidated Appropriations; (HR 1625)

FY 17 Omnibus (HR 244): \$12.7 million

Fiscal Year	Bill Number	Division	Title	Section	Page Number
FY 17	HR 244	G	II	Environmental Programs and Management	335
FY 2018	HR 1625	G	II	Environmental Programs and Management	316
FY 2019	HR 31	A	II	Environmental Programs and Management	767

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