

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION directing the Energy and Environment Cabinet to create a  
2 task force to study the funding of water infrastructure projects in communities that lack  
3 traditional funding sources.

4 WHEREAS, water is a critical natural resource for Kentucky; and

5 WHEREAS, Kentucky's water infrastructure, including drinking water treatment  
6 plants and distribution systems, wastewater treatment plants and collection systems, and  
7 dams that provide flood protection, water supply, recreation, and generation of electricity,  
8 is critical to Kentucky's public health and safety, economic development, environmental  
9 sustainability, and quality of life; and

10 WHEREAS, more than 95% of Kentuckians receive public water service, and the  
11 majority of Kentuckians are connected to regional wastewater service; and

12 WHEREAS, Kentucky's extensive water infrastructure includes 213 water treatment  
13 plants, more than 64,000 miles of water lines, 1800 storage tanks, more than 1000  
14 pumping stations, and more than 300 moderate and high hazard dams; and

15 WHEREAS, Kentucky's wastewater infrastructure includes 804 wastewater  
16 treatment plants, more than 18,000 miles of sewer lines, and more than 4000 lift stations;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Kentucky water facilities face significant infrastructure challenges;  
19 and

20 WHEREAS, the average age of Kentucky's water infrastructure exceeds its design  
21 life; and

22 WHEREAS, Kentucky has made significant progress to preserve and improve water  
23 quality through regionalization and consolidation of water and wastewater systems; and

24 WHEREAS, the challenges for Kentucky's water infrastructure are age, deferred  
25 maintenance, insufficient planning, and lack of investment in the infrastructure; and

26 WHEREAS, Kentucky has made significant investment in its water infrastructure;  
27 however, current investment is insufficient to meet the Kentucky's infrastructure needs

1 through 2035, which is estimated to exceed \$16 billion; and

2 WHEREAS, Kentucky must proactively invest and maintain its current assets or  
3 risk stranding those assets and the communities they serve; and

4 WHEREAS, the Energy and Environment Cabinet has considerable data on  
5 Kentucky's water and wastewater infrastructure that would be useful in making funding  
6 decisions and asset planning and management for the long-term viability of Kentucky's  
7 water infrastructure;

8 NOW, THEREFORE,

9 ***Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

10 ➔Section 1. The Energy and Environment Cabinet is directed to create a task  
11 force of water infrastructure stakeholders to study Kentucky's current and future water  
12 infrastructure needs, including but not limited to the following entities:

- 13 (1) The President of the American Council of Engineering Companies of Kentucky or  
14 his or her designee; and
- 15 (2) The Executive Director of the Office of Rate Intervention, Kentucky Office of the  
16 Attorney General, or his or her designee;
- 17 (3) The President of the Kentucky Association of Counties or his or her designee;
- 18 (4) The Executive Director of the Kentucky County Judge/Executive Association or his  
19 or her designee;
- 20 (5) The President of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce or his or her designee;
- 21 (6) The Executive Director of the Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts or  
22 his or her designee;
- 23 (7) The Commissioner of the Kentucky Department for Public Health or his or her  
24 designee;
- 25 (8) The Executive Director of the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority or his or her  
26 designee;
- 27 (9) The Executive Director of the Kentucky League of Cities or his or her designee;

- 1 (10) The Executive Director of the Kentucky Municipal Utilities Association or his or  
2 her designee;
- 3 (11) The Executive Director of the Kentucky Public Service Commission or his or her  
4 designee;
- 5 (12) The State Director of the Kentucky Rural Community Assistance Partnership or his  
6 or her designee;
- 7 (13) The Executive Director of the Kentucky Rural Water Association or his or her  
8 designee;
- 9 (14) One member of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate who shall serve  
10 as a nonvoting member;
- 11 (15) One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the  
12 House who shall serve as a nonvoting member.

13 ➔Section 2. The Energy and Environment Cabinet in consultation with the task  
14 force is directed to study and make recommendations for:

- 15 (1) Options for generating state and local funds that can be used to directly fund water  
16 infrastructure projects or leverage other public and private funds; and
- 17 (2) The administration and allocation of those funds by the cabinet for water  
18 infrastructure projects.

19 ➔Section 3. The Energy and Environment Cabinet shall report the findings and  
20 recommendations of the task force to the Interim Joint Committee on Natural Resources  
21 and Energy by December 1, 2019.