To establish a program to increase drinking water and wastewater system threat preparedness and resilience, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. Markey introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on ________________

A BILL

To establish a program to increase drinking water and wastewater system threat preparedness and resilience, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Water System Threat Preparedness and Resilience Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. PROGRAM ESTABLISHMENT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEM.—The term “community water system” has the meaning given
(2) **Natural Hazard.**—The term “natural hazard” has the meaning given the term in section 1433(h) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300i–2(h)).

(3) **Treatment Works.**—The term “treatment works” has the meaning given the term in section 212 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1292).

(4) **Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center.**—The term “Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center” means the Information Sharing and Analysis Center referenced in section 1435(d) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300i–4(d)).

(b) **Establishment.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall develop and carry out a program—

(1) to encourage, support, and maintain the participation of community water systems, treatment works, and other appropriate entities in the Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center;
(2) to offset costs incurred by community water systems and treatment works that are necessary to maintain or initiate membership in the Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center;

(3) to expand the cooperation and coordination of the Environmental Protection Agency with the Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center with respect to incident data collection and analysis of water sector-related threats; and

(4) to enhance the tools, resources, and materials of the Water Information Sharing and Analysis Center for—

(A) monitoring the status of the water sector; and

(B) enhancing the preparedness of community water systems and publicly owned treatment works to identify, protect against, detect, respond to, and recover from malevolent acts (within the meaning of section 1433 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300i–2)) or natural hazards.

(c) Authorization of Appropriations.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 and 2025, to remain available until expended.