Water for Tomorrow Act

Every American has the right to clean water, but too many communities are confronting the effects of contaminated drinking water, increasing water bills, and the lack of a sustainable water supply. The threat of climate change, which has a disproportionate impact on low-income communities and communities of color and will continue to intensify water scarcity and extreme weather conditions, underscores the need to address the water crisis before it’s too late.

A diverse portfolio of water management, storage, recycling, and reuse techniques can help sustainably and responsibly manage water in the United States. A sustainable water supply relies on environmentally sound water storage projects, protection of clean water programs, financing and funding for water recycling and reuse, improvements to wastewater systems and flood management, utilization of natural infrastructure, water conservation and efficiency, and healthy ecosystems. Robust Federal investment and support is needed to assist the Western United States in developing future drought resiliency in the face of climate change and inequitable access to clean, affordable, and sustainable water.

That is why U.S. Senator Kamala D. Harris is introducing the Water for Tomorrow Act, which combines the water sustainability measures from her Water Justice Act with key measures from the FUTURE Drought Resiliency Act that were included in H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act.

The Water for Tomorrow Act will make a nearly $3 billion investment in:

- **Water Infrastructure and Sustainability**
  - Financing program to fund water infrastructure projects including storage, transport, desalination projects, and stormwater capture projects. Allows for access to federally-backed, low-cost loans. Prioritizes projects that will benefit low-income communities and communities impacted by climate change. Requires that projects provide fisheries or ecosystem benefits or improvements that are greater than mitigation and compliance.
  - Grant program to help disadvantaged communities facing declines in drinking water quality or quantity. Led in the House by Rep. Cox.
  - Increased funding for water management improvement.
  - Reauthorization and increased funding for rural water supply.

- **Ecosystem Protection and Restoration**
  - Grant program to improve watershed health and mitigate against climate change.
  - Funding for the Cooperative Watershed Management Program, adding a focus on disadvantaged communities and projects that provide environmental benefits.
  - Support for refuge water deliveries, drought planning for fisheries, and aquatic ecosystem restoration.

- **Improved Technology and Data**
  - Utilization of data from technologies like LIDAR to measure water availability in snowpack.
  - Study to examine the climate change vulnerabilities of Federal dams.