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LEAGUE

303 831 6411 / 866 578 0936 

303 860 8175 

www.cml.org 

1144 Sherman St., Denver, CO 80203 

Madam Chair and members of the Senate Finance Committee,

The Colorado Municipal League is submitting this written testimony in support of House Bill 21-1105. The Colorado Municipal League represents 270 of Colorado's 272 towns and cities. We want to thank Representative Kennedy and Senator Hansen for bringing it forward.

House bill 1105 allows an option for our municipal water utilities who may want to provide their customers with the ability to contribute to a program to help members in their own community who are struggling to keep up with their utility bills. We appreciate that this program is optional for water utilities and does not supersede programs that water utilities may already have in place for their customers either in house or through third party non-profits. Having these options available to utilities allows them to be involved with the program in the way that best fits the needs of their own communities.

For some smaller municipalities do not have the bandwidth in terms of staff time, or they have other limiting factors to be able to facilitate this type of a program on their own. Having this option means that they can provide these benefits to their members.

We do appreciate that this bill preserves local governments water and municipal utilities local control around how they finance these programs for their customers.

Sincerely,

Heather Stauffer
Legislative and Policy Advocate
Colorado Municipal League
1144 Sherman Street
Denver, CO 80203

For more information contact Heather Stauffer at 303-831-6411 or hstauffer@cml.org