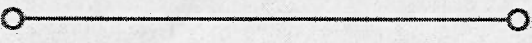


# HB25-1120

Representative Smith  
Senator Roberts

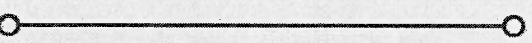
## Septic-System Replacement Enterprise



### Summary

Homeowners, municipalities, towns, and counties across the state utilize septic systems, **which are essential to manage waste and properly maintain public health standards.** Many individual homeowners have systems in need of replacement, often at significant cost. Efficiently replacing these septic systems is important not just for the homeowner, but for their neighbors, communities, and waterways.

The bill creates the septic-system replacement enterprise, which operates as a government-owned business imposing and collecting a sliding scale fee charged on septic-system permits and using the fee revenue to provide interest free or low interest loans to replace failing septic systems for **qualified low-income homeowners.**



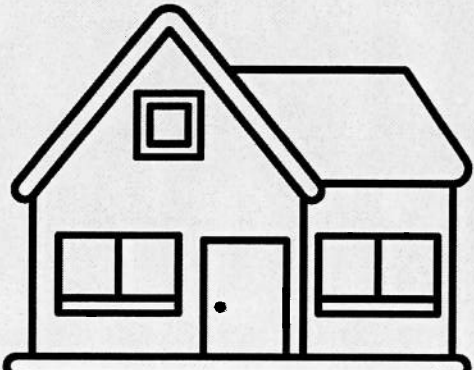
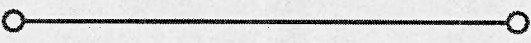
### Supporters

- Chatfield Watershed Authority
- Special District Association of CO
- Three Lakes Water and Sanitation District
- Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

### Who will participate in the enterprise?

The enterprise will be governed by a board consisting of the following 7 members, as appointed by the governor:

- A county commissioner in a county with rural areas
- A member of a county board of health in a county with rural areas
- A member of a governing body of a municipality that has septic systems
- A representative of the Department of Public Health and Environment
- A representative of the Department of Local Affairs
- A representative of an association of counties within Colorado and who lives in a rural area
- A representative of a Special Sanitation District







# Chatfield Watershed Authority

February 18, 2025

Colorado General Assembly  
200 East Colfax Avenue  
Denver, Colorado 80203

**Re: Letter in Support of HB25-1120**

Dear Committee Members,

This letter is submitted on behalf of the Chatfield Watershed Authority (the "Authority") to express strong support for HB25-1120, the Septic System Replacement Enterprise legislation currently under consideration by the Colorado General Assembly.

### **Background on the Chatfield Watershed Authority**

The Authority was established in 1984 to provide for and promote a regional, coordinated approach for the provision of water quality improvements and the protection of water quality in the Chatfield Watershed for a variety of beneficial uses and for the public benefit of the thirteen members, area residents, and visitors to Chatfield State Park. The Authority achieves this by reducing phosphorus and chlorophyll levels, managing both point and nonpoint sources of pollution, and implementing effective stormwater controls pursuant to the Chatfield Reservoir Control Regulation #73 (5 CCR 1002-73). This effort is crucial for preventing harmful algae growth, which can degrade water quality and affect water uses and recreation. As part of our responsibilities, we allocate phosphorus loads to point and nonpoint source dischargers, supporting projects that reduce phosphorus levels in the watershed and enhance water quality. The members work cooperatively to achieve this mission within their respective jurisdictions.

### **Support for HB25-1120**

As part of our ongoing efforts to safeguard the health of the Chatfield Watershed, we strongly support HB25-1120, the Septic System Replacement Enterprise (current draft dated February 13, 2025). Septic systems, when improperly maintained or outdated, can be a major source of water pollution. Pollutants released through failing septic systems can pose risks to water quality and aquatic life. By replacing failing septic systems across the state, this legislation offers a practical solution to reducing nutrient pollution in critical water bodies like Chatfield Reservoir. We believe that this initiative will help mitigate pollution in our watershed, furthering our mission to protect water quality and preserve the health of the Chatfield Watershed for generations to come. We wholeheartedly support HB25-1120 and encourage its passage to ensure the continued health of our state's waterways and communities.



# Chatfield Watershed Authority

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue. Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or need further information.

Sincerely,

Laura Cavey  
Chair, Chatfield Watershed Authority Board of Directors

Lesley Dahlkemper  
Vice Chair, Chatfield Watershed Authority Board of Directors