

AMENDMENT 8-4-4

CONTAMINATED WELLS NO MORE

SENATE BUDGET AMENDMENT #844 | PRIVATE WELL CLEAN UP

SENATOR JAMIE ELDRIDGE | MAY 2022

RCAP Solutions

THE HEALTH FOUNDATION
OF CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS



Photos courtesy of RCAP Solutions

SUMMARY

This amendment would expand the existing **MassHousing Septic Repair Loan Program (SRLP)** to enable low-income homeowners across Massachusetts to access **no- or low-interest loans to remediate contaminated private wells.**

Approximately \$3 million still remains in the SRLP revolving loan fund, so **no additional state funding is required** at this time.

Currently, there are few financial assistance programs for the **>500,000 Massachusetts residents relying on private wells for drinking water.**

PLEASE SUPPORT CLEAN DRINKING WATER FOR ALL!

Any questions? Please contact Jenna Day (jday@rcapsolutions.org) or Amie Shei (ashei@hfc.com).

CONTAMINATED WELLS ARE PREVALENT

Recent testing programs suggest that:

~**27%** of private wells may have contaminants exceeding primary health standards and/or suggesting health risks

~**5%** of private wells may have PFAS exceeding state standards

CONTAMINANTS CAN HARM HEALTH

Arsenic, E. coli, PFAS, radon, uranium, etc. can have negative short- or long-term health impacts

TREATMENT SYSTEMS CAN BE COSTLY

Private well treatment systems can range from \$1,000 - \$10,000, which can be a financial burden, especially for low-income homeowners