

## Senate Supports Private Wells Clean Up

Last Thursday, July 21, the Senate adopted Senator Jamie Eldridge's amendment to the economic development bill to provide financial assistance to low-income homeowners in need of private well remediation to address contaminated drinking water. Amendment 282 (Private Wells Clean Up) expands the existing MassHousing Septic Repair Loan Program to include private well remediation. In his remarks on the Senate floor, Senator Eldridge credited the Foundation and RCAP Solutions for their leadership and for shedding light on private well contamination through the [Private Well Program to Protect Public Health](#), a Round 5 Synergy Initiative project, and he cited the advocacy efforts of Foundation President and CEO Dr. Amie Shei.

While this amendment was adopted in the Senate version of the economic development bill, it was not included in the House version, so it will be important that the conference committee working to reconcile differences between the House and Senate versions includes this private well provision in the final economic development bill. **Please consider signing on to this letter of support TODAY urging the conference committee to include this private well provision in its final report.**

You may sign on support as an individual or an organization here:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1t7LJCw4yz45JRNHJISqaYykC4gTXJ5puNa0PxBX2\\_4Q](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1t7LJCw4yz45JRNHJISqaYykC4gTXJ5puNa0PxBX2_4Q)

Thank you to Senator Jamie Eldridge and Representative Dan Sena for their leadership in advancing our efforts to address inequities in drinking water protections across the state. Thanks also to everyone who responded to our recent advocacy alerts and contacted their Representatives and Senators.

We are hopeful that there will soon be financial assistance for low-income homeowners needing to remediate contaminated private wells so that they, too, can access safe drinking water.

The Foundation has provided over \$1 million in funding to the Private Well Program to Protect Public Health, led by RCAP Solutions, since 2020.

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