TO: Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture

FROM: Senator William N. Brownsberger

RE: S.405, An Act to mitigate water resource impacts

DATE: October 20th, 2015

I am writing to express support for S.405, An Act to mitigate water resource impacts.

This bill will allow cities, towns or water utilities to assess a fee on new or increased water usage to fund conservation and infrastructure improvements. Our state’s aging water infrastructure is badly in need of investment. The funds collected could be applied towards a number of different water system improvements, such as: dam removal and other green infrastructure projects; environmental planning and mitigation; land acquisition for watershed protection and improvements to water and wastewater infrastructure.

S.405 will help maintain and improve the health of our water systems. I hope the committee will report it favorably.