SEC. 13206. SAFE HARBOR FOR RURAL AND SMALL PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS.

(a) Enforcement Moratorium.—No civil penalties may be imposed on any small public water system for noncompliance with a national primary drinking water regulation under the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.) between—

(1) the date of enactment of this section; and

(2) the date upon which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, or a State with primary enforcement responsibility pursuant to section 1413 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300g–3), promulgates a rule for a technology, treatment technique, or other means that is protective of public health and is technically and economically feasible for small public water systems.

(b) Small Public Water System Treatment Technologies.—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall allow a State with primary enforcement responsibility, pursuant to section 1413 of
the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300g–3), to use funds made available under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j–12) to develop a prescribed technology, treatment technique, or other means that is protective of public health and is technically and economically feasible for small public water systems.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE.—The term “economically feasible” means the level of affordability that can be achieved by a small public water system applying the best available treatment technology and not more costly, on a per-capita basis, to a small public water system than the cost, on a per-capita basis, to a large public water system of acquiring feasible technology.

(2) PROTECTIVE OF PUBLIC HEALTH.—The term “protective of public health” has the same meaning as used in section 1412(b)(15)(B) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300g–1(b)(15)(B)).

(3) PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM.—The term “public water system” has the meaning given such term in section 1401 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f).
(4) Small public water system.—The term “small public water system” means a public water system that has fewer than 10,000 service connections.