

Dear Chair Lively, Vice Chairs Gamba and Levy, and Members of the Committee

My name is Arun N. Toke, and I strongly support HB 3512 to phase out toxic PFAS chemicals in Oregon. PFAS, known as "forever chemicals," build up in our bodies, persist in the environment, and are linked to cancer, immune disorders, and water contamination. Oregon must act now to protect public health and prevent further pollution.

HB 3512 will phase out added PFAS in firefighting foam, artificial turf, cookware, cosmetics, textiles, and many other products. Other states have already taken action, and Oregon should not become a dumping ground for toxic goods that can no longer be sold elsewhere. This bill builds on proven solutions to improve public health in a responsible, cost-effective way. It contaminates soil and water, putting crops, pollinators, livestock, and fisheries at risk. Removing PFAS at the source will ensure cleaner drinking water, sparing ratepayers from expensive water treatment costs.

Oregon has an opportunity to lead in protecting communities from dangerous chemicals. I urge you to pass HB 3512 to protect our health, environment, and economy from the long-lasting damage of PFAS contamination.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Arun N. Toké
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