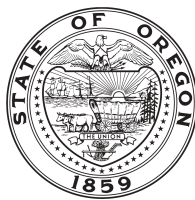


COURTNEY NERON  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
DISTRICT 26



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### Testimony in Support of [HB 3512](#)

March 13, 2025

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

Thank you for hearing **HB 3512**. This is a bill to **phase out the non-essential uses of PFAS chemicals from products in Oregon**, thereby protecting human health and our environment from the harmful impacts of these synthetic chemicals.

PFAS are a class of over 14,000 unique chemical compounds used to repel grease, water, heat, and oil. They have been used in thousands of consumer products going back decades. Unfortunately, their usefulness has been overshadowed by recent research that shows they are **highly pervasive, nearly indestructible, and incredibly harmful to human health**. With HB 3512, Oregon will join many other states in phasing out their use in products that people come in contact with every day.

**In recent sessions, our Legislature has shown a commitment to addressing toxins.** In 2023, we passed the Toxic Free Kids Act ([HB 3043](#)), giving the OHA the authority to monitor and update the list of harmful chemicals in children's products, including PFAS. In that same session, we also passed the Toxic Free Cosmetics Act ([SB 546](#)), which sets limits for the amounts of certain harmful ingredients that are allowed in cosmetics, including PFAS. That year, we also passed [SB 543](#), which prohibited the use of PFAS in containers used for prepared food. These bills took important first steps in addressing our exposure to PFAS through our consumer goods. Since then, other states have advanced the conversation on PFAS by passing policies that appropriately limit their use in other common items. **HB 3512 aligns Oregon with the work of other states, like Minnesota, Maine, Connecticut, Colorado, Vermont, and Washington, to name a few.**

We have met with various industry partners and heard their feedback and made changes to this bill based on what they shared, which will be seen in the -1 amendment. **We understand that our industry partners share our concern about PFAS and want to work with us to address the issue. Like our industry partners, we wanted to eliminate any barriers to compliance.** Things like consistency with other states, timelines, and product classes were adjusted based on industry input. We have aligned our bill with other states' PFAS policies in every way possible.

On January 1st of this year, Minnesota's landmark bill, [Amara's Law](#), went into effect and as of *right now* in Minnesota, PFAS may not be intentionally added to cleaning products, carpets and rugs, cookware, cosmetics, dental floss, fabric treatments, firefighting foam, food packaging, juvenile products, menstrual products, textiles, and ski wax. If that list sounds familiar, it is because Oregon's bill matches Minnesota's. **Essentially, if a company complies with Minnesota's *current law*, they will also easily be able to comply with Oregon's when this bill goes into effect in two years.** The remaining products listed in HB 3512 are covered by other states. Our HB3512 policy matches that of [California's](#) for apparel, [Colorado](#) for artificial turf, and [Maine](#) for product packaging.

Claims that *certain* types of PFAS are safe, are not a helpful. Over and over again, industry has shifted from one PFAS chemical compound to a different one, only to find out later that the new one is just as harmful, or worse. For example, just two months ago, [the EPA announced nine new PFAS compounds](#) they are adding to the Toxics Release Inventory. 3M, one of the lead manufacturers of PFAS, has [pledged to completely stop PFAS manufacturing](#) by the end of this year. Furthermore, over the past several years, [many companies from a variety of industries](#), including industries manufacturing the items covered in this bill, have announced their commitment to phase out the use of PFAS in their products.

Simply put, **ending the use of intentionally added PFAS is the right thing to do.** Let's join health-aware industry partners and states across the country in phasing out the use of these harmful chemicals before they do more damage to our bodies and the environment. Please join me in supporting HB 3512.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Courtney Neron". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.