

SARAH FINGER MCDONALD, PhD
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
House District 16
Corvallis & Adair Village



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 12, 2025

Chair Lively

House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment

Dear Members of the House Committee on Climate, Energy, and Environment,

I am writing in support of HB 3512, which prohibits the distribution or sale of certain products intentionally containing perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances – PFAS.

Known as “forever chemicals,” PFAS are manufactured toxic chemicals that are difficult to break down and are present throughout our world in low, yet dangerous, levels. PFAS are found in firefighting foam, artificial turf, cookware, cosmetics, and many other everyday products.

Other than their long-lasting nature, PFAS are linked to cancer, immune disorders, and water contamination. Firefighters are more likely to have higher levels of PFAS exposure leading to a higher risk of blood or organ complications. Not only will a phase out of PFAS be good for the environment, but it will directly impact public health.

There are alternatives, and PFAS bans and “phase outs” have already been successful in California, Washington, Colorado, Minnesota, and Maine. Why should we continue contaminating soil and water, livestock and fisheries, and Oregonians’ health, when we do not have to.

I urge your support for HB 3512.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

State Representative

Representative Sarah Finger McDonald