

Submitter: Doris Cellarius
On Behalf Of: self
Committee: House Committee On Climate, Energy, and Environment
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB91

Support for Senate Bill 91 - Relating to firefighting foam; prescribing an effective date.

Dear Chair Sollman, Vice Chair Brock Smith, and other members of the Committee,

I urge you to adopt SB 91, legislation to address the problem that across America water supplies and soils have been contaminated with PFAS used in aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF). Firefighters who use these dangerous products have suffered from serious illnesses, as have other people who have been exposed.

You can assure that Oregon will join the more than 15 states that have passed laws prohibiting the use of the foams containing PFAS in fire suppression. Switching to PFAS-free firefighting foams and ensuring the safe collection, transportation, and disposal of PFAS foams will save lives and protect the health of Oregonians.

Oregon is already leading the way. As Fire Chief Brian Stewart testified –

“Fortunately, a PFAS-free foam alternative, known as P3, is already being utilized at Oregon’s largest airport, PDX, as well as other airports across the state. Recognizing the health and environmental importance of this transition, Oregon became the first state in the nation to eliminate AFFF from its major airport firefighting foam inventory for use in petroleum-based aircraft fire incidents. This bill takes the necessary and responsible steps to remove AFFF from the broader Oregon fire service in a phased and manageable manner. “

Please pass SB 91. Every community needs this protection.