



TESTIMONY IN **OPPOSITION** TO SB 887
AAC **Exempting Certain Cookware from PFAS Requirements**
February 16, 2025

To: Honorable Co-Chairs Sen. Lopes and Rep. Parker, and Distinguished Members of the Environment Committee

From: Lori Brown, Executive Director, Connecticut League of Conservation Voters

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **OPPOSING SB 887** that unwisely creates an exemption for cookware products containing Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl chemicals also known as **PFAS**.

Don't be fooled by industry claims that their new version of PFAS, called PTFE, is safe. **PTFE IS STILL PFAS.**

PFAS contamination is spreading throughout our communities, polluting our water, soil, and plants, and ultimately impacting humans and wildlife.

The most important step right now is to stop PFAS at the source. **We must do more to "turn off the tap" that is saturating our environment with these highly toxic chemicals.**

CT took the lead last year to pass **Public Act 24-59** to protect our residents from exposure to these dangerous substances that are intentionally added to consumer products—like carpets, rugs, textiles, cleaning products, cosmetics, and cookware.

This built upon an earlier critical step in 2021 when PFAS was banned in firefighting foam and food packaging—two major sources of contamination.

Many retailers are already moving away from products including cookware that contain toxic PFAS where **alternative products are readily available**. Despite the dangers of PFAS, cookware manufacturers want to continue to make consumer products with PFAS chemicals.

There is ongoing testing and costly remediation of sites across Connecticut to address the devastating health and environmental impacts of PFAS. We urge you to **vote against this industry effort** to bypass the critical health and environmental protection law that you wisely adopted last year.

Did you know...

- Nearly every American has PFAS in their body. They are found in blood, breast milk, and even umbilical cord blood of newborn babies.
- 250,000 people have PFAS in their drinking water.
- PFAS are known as 'forever chemicals' because they don't break down, even during incineration, and there is no safe way to dispose of products with PFAS
- Scientists from around the world are calling on governments to eliminate the entire class of PFAS where possible due to significant human health and environmental impacts.
- A 2022 U.N. Human Rights Commission report urged countries to ban all uses of PFAS.
- Fish in the Farmington and Hockanum rivers have been found to have PFAS— requiring fish consumption advisories.
- **There is Broad scientific consensus that PFAS (per and polyfluoroalkyl substances) are a class of 14,000+ chemical variations, including PTFE:**

Thank you for considering this information as you deliberate the importance of stopping this legislation in your Committee.

CT League of Conservation Voters
553 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105
ctlcv.org * ctlcv@ctlcv.org