



TESTIMONY IN **SUPPORT of SB 837**
AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF PERFLUOROALKYL OR
POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES IN CLASS B FIREFIGHTING FOAM

February 8, 2021

To: Honored Co-Chairs Sen. Cohen and Rep. Borer and Distinguished Members of the Environment Committee

From: Lori Brown, Connecticut League of Conservation Voters

On behalf of CTLCV, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony **IN SUPPORT of SB 837** to restrict the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

According to the Center for Disease Control, **PFAS are strongly linked to testicular and kidney cancer, liver damage, hormone disruption, increases in cholesterol, thyroid disruption, asthma, reproductive disorders including infertility, low birth weight, and decreased response to vaccines.** Despite these dangers, PFAS continues to be used in class B firefighting foam, nonstick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain resistant fabrics and carpets, some cosmetics, products that resist grease, water and oil, food packaging and food service ware.

There are more than 4,700 PFAS in use today, and their prevalence has caused pollution at 1,398 sites in 49 states, including Connecticut. **PFAS have been found in the tap water of millions of homes across the United States.** Furthermore, the United States Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR) found that PFAS were more harmful than previously thought and that **supposed “safe levels” were 10 times less than previously thought.**

PFAS are called **“Forever Chemicals”** because they do not break down easily and remain in the environment and the human body for years. PFAS can leak out of landfills or industrial sites, endangering entire populations. As PFAS build up in the environment, future generations risk exposure at higher levels than today.

It is extremely difficult to effectively clean up spills or get it out of our water resources. It is time for Connecticut to stop contamination at the source and prohibit the use of PFAS in class B firefighting foam and in consumer products that contain these toxic chemicals.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Lori Brown
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