

RELEASE - DEMOCRATIC LEGISLATION TO REMEDIATE PFAS CONTAMINATION SIGNED INTO LAW

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New Hampshire House of Representatives Concord, New Hampshire House Majority Office

PRESS RELEASE

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CONCORD – Today, Governor Sununu signed HB 1264, legislation that extends the commission on the seacoast cancer cluster investigation, sets the maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for perfluorochemicals in drinking water, establishes the per and polyfluoroalkyl substances PFAS fund, establishes a low-interest loan program for certain water and waste water systems affected by PFAS contamination, makes an appropriation to DES for the remediation of PFAS contamination, allows DES to borrow money, requires insurance coverage for PFAS and PFC blood testing, and expands the statute governing ambient groundwater quality standards to include state maximum contaminant levels established in law.

Co-sponsor of the legislation and environmental advocate, **Representative Nancy Murphy (D-Merrimack)**, released the following statement:

“Today is a wonderful day in NH for PFAS impacted communities across our great state. As a retired nurse, public health and environmental advocate, and resident of the town of Merrimack whose drinking water, air, and soil has been ruthlessly contaminated by PFAS; today has been a long-awaited day of hope. Science has shown us that a host of adverse health outcomes are known to be associated with PFAS exposure, and some NH communities have experienced long-term and ongoing exposure to these toxic chemicals that persist in the environment and accumulate in the human body. It is this knowledge that propelled me to run for office in 2018 to ensure that science dictates our policy and that the people of New Hampshire and our environment are protected and prioritized above potential “cost” to big industry adjusting to alternative and safer practices.

The passage of this critical environmental and public health protective PFAS policy is essential to the health and well-being of NH citizens. I am humbled and proud to have been a part of this legislation that will have enormous impact on the lives of Granite State families.”

Co-sponsor of the legislation and environmental advocate, **Representative Wendy Thomas (D-Merrimack)**, released the following statement:

“The community of Merrimack and all Granite Staters impacted by PFAS contamination can begin to breathe a sigh of relief today. Democratic legislators heard years long ignored cries for help and rose to the challenge to answer them. This legislation will begin the process of reparations for communities that have lost so much life and quality of health to these toxic contaminants. I stand as committed as ever to the notion that water is life and we are all deserving of safe resources that don’t make us sick.”

Co-sponsor of the legislation and environmental advocate, **Representative Rosemarie Rung (D-Merrimack)** released the following statement:

“This legislation is vital to protecting NH families from the risks of PFAS contamination, but it also supports cities and towns in their efforts to provide safe drinking water. I applaud the NH Municipal Association for working with legislators to identify funding sources for municipal water systems.”

Co-sponsor of the legislation and environmental advocate, **Representative Kathryn Stack (D-Merrimack)** released the following statement:

“The needless health and financial impact that PFAS contaminants have had on families in our state is unacceptable. This legislative term, my Democratic colleagues from Merrimack and I fought for the welfare of Granite State families, repeating time and time again that politics should never come before people’s health. The signing of this legislation today is the culmination of 2 years of hard-fought and fearless advocacy that will protect more families from the undue and unjust burden of PFAS contamination.”

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