

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4829

To create intergovernmental coordination on addressing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance contamination, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. COLLINS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To create intergovernmental coordination on addressing perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance contamination, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “PFAS Intergovern-
5 mental Coordination Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
2 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-
3 mittees” means—

4 (A) the Committee on Homeland Security
5 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

6 (B) the Committee on Oversight and Re-
7 form of the House of Representatives.

8 (2) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
9 the Director of the Office of Management and Budg-
10 et.

11 (3) PFAS.—The term “PFAS” means a
12 perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substance that is
13 man-made and has not fewer than 1 fully
14 fluorinated carbon atom.

15 (4) WORKING GROUP.—The term “working
16 group” means the working group established under
17 section 3(a).

18 **SEC. 3. CREATION OF WORKING GROUP.**

19 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after
20 the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall estab-
21 lish a working group to facilitate more effective coopera-
22 tion, coordination, and mutual accountability among every
23 level of the Federal Government and State, local, and
24 Tribal governments on a holistic response to PFAS con-
25 tamination in communities across the United States.

1 (b) TERMINATION.—

2 (1) TERMINATION DATE.—The working group
3 shall terminate on the date that is 2 years after the
4 date on which the working group is established.

5 (2) EXTENSION.—Based on the recommenda-
6 tion of the working group described in section
7 6(a)(2), the Director may extend the working group
8 beyond the termination date.

9 **SEC. 4. MEMBERSHIP AND MEETINGS.**

10 (a) APPOINTMENT.—The Director shall appoint to
11 the working group representatives with expertise in PFAS
12 from Federal agencies, State, local, and Tribal govern-
13 ments and academic research institutions, including—

14 (1) not less than 1 representative from—

15 (A) the Environmental Protection Agency;

16 (B) the Department of Defense;

17 (C) the Council on Environmental Quality;

18 (D) the Department of Veterans Affairs;

19 (E) the Department of Agriculture;

20 (F) the National Science Foundation;

21 (G) an institution of higher education en-
22 gaged in PFAS contamination research; and

23 (H) any other relevant entity, as deter-
24 mined by the Director;

1 (2) not less than 5 representatives from the De-
 2 partment of Health and Human Services, including
 3 not less than 1 representative from—

4 (A) the Centers for Disease Control and
 5 Prevention;

6 (B) the Agency for Toxic Substances and
 7 Disease Registry;

8 (C) the National Institute for Occupation
 9 Safety and Health;

10 (D) the National Institutes of Health; and

11 (E) the Food and Drug Administration;

12 and

13 (3) not less than 15 representatives from a di-
 14 verse cross-section of State, local, and Tribal govern-
 15 ments, including not less than 5 representatives
 16 from—

17 (A) State governments;

18 (B) local governments; and

19 (C) Tribal governments.

20 (b) CONSULTATION.—The Director may consult rel-
 21 evant entities in selecting appointees to the working group.

22 (c) CHAIR.—The Director may chair the working
 23 group or designate a chair.

24 (d) MEETINGS.—The working group shall convene on
 25 a quarterly basis.

1 **SEC. 5. DUTIES OF THE WORKING GROUP.**

2 The duties of the working group shall include—

3 (1) considering the common challenges in ad-
4 dressing PFAS contamination across every level of
5 the Federal Government and State, local, and Tribal
6 governments;

7 (2) facilitating more effective cooperation, co-
8 ordination, and mutual accountability among every
9 level of the Federal Government and State, local,
10 and Tribal governments on a holistic response to
11 PFAS contamination;

12 (3) incorporating the diverse perspectives of the
13 working group to devise ways to—

14 (A) improve the administration and coordi-
15 nation of responses to PFAS contamination;
16 and

17 (B) mitigate future PFAS contamination;

18 (4) providing steps for more productive inter-
19 governmental collaboration in the future, including
20 enhanced communication protocols and recommenda-
21 tions and solutions that would fully address PFAS
22 contamination across the Federal Government and
23 State, local, and Tribal governments; and

24 (5) any other relevant duties as determined by
25 the working group.

1 **SEC. 6. REPORT.**

2 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date
3 of enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit to the
4 appropriate congressional committees a report that—

5 (1) describes any guidelines created in per-
6 forming the duties under section 5; and

7 (2) makes a recommendation with respect to ex-
8 tending the authorization of the working group.

9 (b) BRIEFING.—Not later than 90 days after the date
10 on which the Director submits the report required under
11 subsection (a), the Director shall brief the appropriate
12 congressional committees on the implementation of any
13 guidelines described in subsection (a)(1).

14 (c) PUBLISHING.—After Congress has been given the
15 opportunity to review the report described in subsection
16 (a) and has been briefed by the Director, and not later
17 than 120 days after the date on which the Director sub-
18 mits such report, the Director shall make the report pub-
19 licly available.

○