

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Senate Resources](#)
Cc: [Sen. Jesse Kiehl](#)
Subject: Senate Bill 176
Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2020 8:58:46 AM

To the members of the Senate Resources Committee:

I am writing to express my support of Senate Bill 176, a bill to regulate PFAS. I live in Gustavus and have been directly affected by the discovery of contamination in our water caused by use of aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) at our airport. We have worked tirelessly in our community to find solutions and assistance in dealing with the contamination. This bill will give all Alaskans the assurance and peace of mind that our state is protecting its residents and visitors from these contaminants. In addition, it gives the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation the necessary tools to do just that.

I strongly support SB176 and urge you to do the same.

Sally McLaughlin

[REDACTED]

Gustavus AK 99826

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Senate Resources](#)
Cc: [Sen. Jesse Kiehl](#)
Subject: Senate Bill 176
Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2020 7:48:59 AM

Dear Members of the Senate Resources Committee,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 176 (Regulating PFAS Use; Fire/Water Safety). I live in Gustavus, where in 2018 we came to learn that aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) had contaminated numerous private wells in our community.

As you know, currently the Alaska Department of Conservation uses the Environmental Protection Agency's lifetime health advisory level of 70 ppt for the sum of only two PFAS compounds (PFOA and PFOS). However, many peer-reviewed studies have found these chemicals to be dangerous at much lower levels. In addition, growing evidence shows the dangers of additional PFAS compounds, including PFHxS, PFNA, PFBS, PFHpA, and Gen-X.

My family has felt that our state government is failing us and our environment by following the EPA's very inadequate guidance. However, Senate Bill 176 provides us with some glimmer of hope.

Among other things, this bill proposes to set lower limits for PFOA (8 ppt) and PFOS (16 ppt) and in so doing, demonstrates that Alaska can be a leader in our nation in protecting its residents and visitors from unsafe water.

I strongly urge you to support SB 176. It is time for Alaska to step up and do more to protect its residents, visitors, and environment from these very dangerous contaminants.

Emily Herman

[REDACTED]
Gustavus, AK 99826

From: [REDACTED] on
To: [Senate Resources](#)
Cc: [Sen. Jesse Kiehl](#)
Subject: SB 176 Regulating PFAS Use; Fire/Water Safety
Date: Monday, February 17, 2020 9:06:28 PM

Dear Members of the Senate Resources Committee,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 176 (Regulating PFAS Use; Fire/Water Safety). I live in Gustavus, where in 2018 we were devastated to learn that aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) had contaminated numerous private wells in our community.

As you know, currently the Alaska Department of Conservation uses the Environmental Protection Agency's lifetime health advisory level of 70 ppt for the sum of only two PFAS compounds (PFOA and PFOS). However, many peer-reviewed studies have found these chemicals to be dangerous at much lower levels. In addition, growing evidence shows the dangers of additional PFAS compounds, including PFHxS, PFNA, PFBS, PFHpA, and Gen-X..

Until now, I have felt despair that our state government is profoundly failing us and our environment by following the EPA's woefully inadequate guidance.

Senate Bill 176 gives me hope.

Among other things, this bill proposes to set lower limits for PFOA (8 ppt) and PFOS (16 ppt) and in so doing, demonstrates that Alaska can be a leader in our nation in protecting its residents and visitors from unsafe water.

I am also pleased to see the bill direct the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation to offer voluntary blood testing to people with PFAS-contaminated drinking water, as well as to responders (such as firefighters) who are exposed to PFAS. Blood testing for PFAS is something that I have been advocating for the state to support since November 2018.

I strongly urge you to support SB 176. It is time for Alaska to step up and do more to protect its residents, visitors, and environment from these dangerous contaminants.

Sincerely,

Janet Neilson

[REDACTED]
Gustavus, AK 99826

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Senate Resources](#)
Cc: [Sen. Jesse Kiehl](#)
Subject: SB 176
Date: Monday, February 17, 2020 12:38:48 PM

I hope that SB 176 gets the support that it deserves. I recently purchased a home in Gustavus that falls in the PFAS area. I purchased this home even though it falls in this area because I was assured by the state that this water problem would be rectified by the state with a filtration system. There are many communities across Alaska and our country that have had these chemicals dumped on property surrounding private homes and wells. We all know now that industry has known for years about the toxicity to the public these forever chemical cause. This bill is a good starting point to get industry and the government to start acting to correct the problems these chemicals have caused and to stop the further spreading of these toxic forever chemicals.

Thank you for taking action on SB 176. Please support this bill.
Debbie Hemenway

[REDACTED]
Gustavus, AK 99825

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Senate Resources](#); [Sen. Jesse Kiehl](#)
Subject: support for SB 176
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 6:46:22 AM

To: Members of the Senate Resources Committee
Re: SB 176 Regulating PFAS Use; Fire/Water Safety

I urge you to support SB 176. This legislation is a vital step forward to protecting the health and safety of my children and my community in my home of Gustavus, AK. While we can't erase the past impacts to our water, now is the time for the state to take action to protect the health of future generations. Thank you for your important work on this issue.

It was a sad day when I took my young children to have their blood tested for PFAS levels. We do not yet have the results, but they ask - and they ask what will happen to them next. We don't know. They ask if anything will change for the better. We hope so. We are doing everything we can to be informed and to take action - please, we urge you to do the same.

Our community is concerned, informed, and active in this issue. I worry about other communities and disadvantaged families that do not have knowledge or leadership like Gustavus. Please take action not only for Gustavus, but for all communities in our state.

Let Alaska be on the forefront of legislation to protect our water, our natural resource and our children. Let us be the first frontier for taking action to abolish PFAS and remedy it's devastating impacts.

Thank you for your work.

Sincerely,
Laura Buchheit
[REDACTED]
Gustavus, AK 99826
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Senate Resources](#)
Cc: [Sen. Jesse Kiehl](#)
Subject: Alaska Senate Bill 176
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2020 4:33:55 AM

Dear Members of the Senate Resources Committee,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 176 (Regulating PFAS Use; Fire/Water Safety). I live in Gustavus, where usage of aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) at the Gustavus Airport for fire training and equipment testing has resulted in contamination of numerous private wells in our community. In addition, my family and I have been personally affected as AFFF from the airport was applied to a brushfire on our property in 2015, resulting in contamination of soils hundreds of times above current Alaska DEC PFAS cleanup levels and contamination of groundwater tens of thousands of times cleanup levels. As you can imagine, we were devastated to learn of the levels of contamination on our property where we have consumed the water from our well and grown produce in soils with contaminated watered and contaminated compost. We have devoted a tremendous amount of time, money, and energy into developing our property and building a home, and now due to PFAS contamination, face an uncertain future.

I urge you to support Senate Bill 176 to promote safe drinking water standards, water monitoring, and blood monitoring of affected citizens. Importantly, the bill will also help to limit the possibility that catastrophes such as those we've experienced in Gustavus do not happen again here or elsewhere in the State. Senate Bill 176 represents an important step that will position the State of Alaska as a leader in promoting sound science-based PFAS standards in the face of this emerging threat to environmental and human health.

Sincerely,
James Saracco
[REDACTED]
Gustavus, Alaska

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Senate Resources](#)
Subject: Re: SB 176 Regulating PFAS Use; Fire/Water Safety
Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2020 9:41:07 PM

To Members of the Senate Resource Committee,

I strongly urge you to support Senate Bill 176 which would set enforceable limits on PFAS contamination in the state of Alaska. Alaska must follow the lead of states like Michigan and New Hampshire in taking concrete steps to protect everyday citizens from toxic PFAS chemicals. It is well documented that PFAS have been directly linked to testicular cancer, liver cancer, endocrine disruption, development issues, and reproductive issues, even at extremely trace amounts. We must act now.

I personally used to live and work in Gustavus, one of the locations most impacted by this pollution crisis. The amount of PFAS at the Gustavus airport is 100,000 times higher than the EPA lifetime health advisory level. The people of Gustavus are honest, good, hardworking people, and they deserve a government that represents their best interests in protecting them from this toxic scourge.

Please act now to enforce limits on PFAS in drinking water. All Alaskans deserve access to healthy, safe drinking water.

-Brian Pinkard
University of Washington

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Sen. Jesse Kiehl](#); [Senate Resources](#)
Cc: kellyrose.alaska@gmail.com
Subject: SB 176
Date: Tuesday, February 18, 2020 2:05:52 PM

Dear Senators,

I strongly support SB 176 and ask that it move expeditiously toward final passage. This bill, if passed, would mandate several key steps forward in coping with the threat of deadly PFAS chemicals to Alaskan health and welfare. I live in Gustavus, where ground water contamination is a serious reality. Use of PFAS chemicals for fire fighting in the airport vicinity has affected dozens of wells in the center of town and can be expected to spread further.

I have spent some time educating myself on these chemicals' alarming behavior and effects. In short, they are highly persistent in the environment, are extremely toxic, and readily bioaccumulate in organisms. Gustavus is only one of many places around Alaska where they have entered the water table in dangerous amounts.

It should be a high priority of the state to respond more fully that it has yet. Please seize this opportunity to do so.

Thank you,

Greg Streveler

Sent from my iPad

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Senate Resources](#)
Subject: SB 176 Regulating PFAS Use; Fire/Water Safety
Date: Thursday, February 20, 2020 11:52:36 AM

Dear Members of the Senate Resources Committee

I would like to urge your support of this legislation. Clean water is very important to me for my family. PFAS chemicals have contaminated the water of members of my community. Please help us do something about this. Passing this bill is a good start.

Thanks,
Sean

--

Sean Neilson Media



glacierbayphototours.com

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Senate Resources](#)
Subject: SB 176 Regulating PFAS Use; Fire/Water Safety
Date: Saturday, February 22, 2020 8:20:47 AM

I am writing to ask for your support of this legislation. I live in Gustavus and have seen what devastation the PFAS have caused in the water of many households here. I visit an 80-year old man here once a week who has PFAS contamination. He bemoans the fact that his land is now worthless, his chickens have tested positive, his garden vegies have tested positive, and he still is just getting bottled water from the state. There has not been any permanent solution offered for his contaminated water situation.

Clean water and air are essential - please pass this bill to get Alaska on the right track to dealing with PFAS in our groundwater.

Thank you for your consideration,

Annie Mackovjak

[REDACTED], Gustavus, AK 88826
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Senate Resources](#)
Cc: [Jim Lesh](#)
Subject: SB 176
Date: Sunday, February 23, 2020 6:48:35 AM

February 17, 2019

Senator Peter Micciche, Chairman
Senate Resources Committee
State Capitol, Room 504
Juneau AK 99801

To: Members of the Senate Resources Committee
Re: SB 176 Regulating PFAS Use; Fire/Water Safety

We would like to express our support for Senate Bill 176, a bill to regulate PFAS and help mitigate the consequences of its use.

My husband and I have lived in Gustavus for over 40 years. We along with dozens of other family members were devastated to learn that our home and property are in the plume of PFAS contaminates and our well is one of many that has been contaminated by these chemicals.

This contamination was caused by the entirely avoidable and unnecessary use of AFFF foam at our airport. This foam was mandated to be used here by the FAA and the State of Alaska DOT/PF despite our airport being one that is exempt from having to use these products. Both the FAA and the State have been aware for many years of the toxic nature of these chemicals but have required our local firefighters to use and train with them anyway. Even worse, despite federal and state regulating agencies' longtime awareness of PFAS issues, these same responders were never made aware of the toxic nature of the foam.

It is our hope that your passage of SB 176 will help other communities in the state avoid the consequences we now have to deal with: fear of long-term health issues, inability to drink our water, no communication from the State if or when we will get any filtration systems for our homes, and the reduction in our property values due to a toxic water table.

Again, we urge your support towards the passage of SB 176 as a rational step forward in protecting the health of Alaska's residents, and the health and economic viability of our communities into the future.

Sincerely,

Melanie and Jim Lesh
[REDACTED]
Gustavus, AK 99826

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Senate Resources](#)
Subject: SB 176 Regulating PFAS Use; Fire/Water Safety
Date: Thursday, February 20, 2020 7:07:36 PM

To Whom it May Concern,

I am a current resident of Gustavus, Alaska. I have spent most of my 36 years of life in the state of Alaska, with the bulk of those years being spent in Juneau and Gustavus. The house I lived in every summer as a child and throughout most of my twenties has water that is contaminated by PFAS. My former work place is contaminated, as well as many relatives' homes in the neighborhood in which I have spent much time and drank many glasses of water. I have been exposed to PFAS in a big way. My family and friends are also affected. It is hard for me to think about the health risks this causes me and even harder to think about the health risks my young niece and nephew could face. My niece was underweight when the PFAS was found and she quickly gained weight when her home was switched to state provided water.

I try to just be healthy and hope for the best. But the damage is probably already done. There's not much I can do to undue the damage at this point. But, there is a lot the state of Alaska can do in order to prevent this from happening to others. I am in support of this bill because it makes the state take some responsibility to prevent people from being exposed to these harmful chemicals in the future.

People deserve clean drinking water! It is so vital. I believe that insuring that people have clean drinking water is worth the effort and resources of the state of Alaska.

Thank you for reading what I have to say.

Sincerely,

Brenna McLaughlin

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Senate Resources](#)
Cc: [Sen. Jesse Kiehl](#)
Subject: SB 176 Regulating PFAS Use; Fire/Water Safety
Date: Friday, February 28, 2020 8:27:41 AM

To: Members of the Senate Resources Committee
Re: Support of Senate Bill 176, Regulating PFAS Use

Greetings,

I would like to support this legislation. I am the owner of several parcels of land here in Gustavus that contaminated ground water from aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF) use at the Gustavus Airport. The Gustavus and one of my other the parcels have ground water testing above the minimums that the Department of Environmental Conservation has established as "safe" for use. This contamination of our ground water makes living much more difficult and expensive as the water needs extensive treatment in order to make it safe to drink. All water needs to be treated as we water the garden, clean fish and water compost. Much of our land is now contaminated due to watering with water contaminated with PFAS chemicals.

Please work to replace all current AFFF foam that contain PFAS chemicals, there are approved alternatives. Please use science based methods to set appropriate levels that may be considered "safe". That said many feel that, like lead, there is no safe level.

Sincerely,

David Lesh
Gustavus Inn
[REDACTED]
Gustavus, AK 99826
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Senate Resources](#)
Cc: [Sen. Jesse Kiehl](#)
Subject: Senate Bill 176 Regulating PFAS Use; Fire/Water Safety
Date: Friday, February 28, 2020 12:44:17 PM

To: Members of the Senate Resources Committee

I am writing to you today to please ask that you support the passage of SB 176. I live in Gustavus and more pertinent, our home is located in the neighborhood where the contamination has reached frighteningly high levels of the aqueous film forming foam (AFFF).

This bill will give our community and all of Alaska the much needed hope and assurance that the State of Alaska will protect its residents, visitors, wildlife and environment from these harmful and deadly contaminants. The passage of SB 176 will in turn give the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation the vital and necessary tools to do this.

I am urging you to pass this vital bill as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Tim Sunday

[REDACTED]
Gustavus, AK 99826

Sent from my iPad

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Senate Resources](#)
Cc: [Sen. Jesse Kiehl](#)
Subject: Senate Bill 176, Regulating PFAS Use; Fire/Water Safety
Date: Tuesday, March 03, 2020 9:00:47 AM

To: Members of the Senate Resources Committee

I am writing to you today in support of the passage of SB 176. My wife and I have lived in Gustavus, Alaska, for almost 50 years and most important, our home is located in one of the areas where PFAS/PFOS contamination has reached frighteningly high levels due to the use of the aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) at the Gustavus Airport.

This bill will give our community and all of Alaska the much needed assurance that the State of Alaska will protect its residents, visitors, wildlife and environment from these harmful and deadly contaminants. The passage of SB 176 will in turn give the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation the vital and necessary tools to do this.

I am urging you to pass this important bill as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Hayden & Bonnie Kaden
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Senate Resources](#); [Sen. Jesse Kiehl](#)
Subject: SB 176
Date: Monday, March 02, 2020 9:38:26 AM

Dear Members of the Senate Resources Committee,

Thank you for taking up Senate Bill 176 (Regulating PFAS Use; Fire/Water Safety). I live in Gustavus where, as you know, PFAS/PFOA contamination has severely impacted many people's lives. While our property has not been impacted directly, it has been painful to watch the devastation parents have felt realizing that they have been exposing their children to these dangerous toxins for years, their yards are poisonous, their gardens and chickens a thing of the past.

It has likewise been vexing to watch state government seem to act in concert with industrial and ideological concerns rather than what is best for Alaskans. Many studies have shown that not just PFAS and PFOA, but the full suite of PFAS compounds can be dangerous at much lower levels than the EPA advisory level of 70ppt. It is heartening to see the legislature taking steps to join other states that are adopting stronger standards to protect their citizens.

I encourage you to keep those parents and children in your mind as you move forward with making this bill as strong as it can be.

Larry Landry

[REDACTED]
Gustavus AK 99826

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

SB 176: VOTE TO LIMIT PFAS

IT IS PERSONAL, IN OUR BODIES AND WORLD FOREVER

.....

For our children and grandchildren, Its up to US!

Lets get personal. This chemical stays in our body forever, so it is very personal. My ingestion and inhalation of this chemical have made me sick. I went to Dr Cole in Juneau for its effects in 1990, he was puzzled and had no answer. The chemical companies knew then it was poison, but continued to sell and require high unprotected aviation usage throughout the world for the next two decades. We need to wake up and protect ourselves, since no one else is. PFAS will not process out of my body, so I will have to live with it.

But I can help others become aware of its poison effects. This is forever, and unlike most pollutants cannot be diluted or remediated out of our planet. There is no way Nature can break this down. It takes a literal stroke of lightning to break its bonds. You and I will be eating and drinking it forever, bioaccumulating and storing it in our bodies. What has been made will be forever on our planet, unseen and difficult to detect, ready to harm our unborn.

PFAS has been poisoning us for 30 plus years on our nine properties in Gustavus. Pregnant mothers, myself, family members, our community and tourists to my business have all been affected. PFAS has caused birth defects in Alaskan children and cost the State money in health care and special education - millions over their lifetime of care.

We have documented health impacts, as described by the C8 health studies, as early as 1990 and currently evidenced by myself, residents of my property over the years, family members and our community

I ask you to regulate and remediate PFAS to the highest extent. Firefighters in this state deserve to be protected while they are protecting us. Communities deserve the protections this bill demands. The general public needs to know you will protect them when you know something is bad. Your families need you to protect them.

JoAnn Lesh, Owner

Gustavus, Alaska 99826



*Our precious future
generation.....actually consuming PFAS.
What will you do to turn off the spigot?*



Kristy Newman

[REDACTED]

North Pole, AK 99705

February 28, 2020

PFAS water contamination has become a real troubling issue in Alaska. How can Alaska continue thriving if its residents are unable to drink clean water? We live a few miles from the Moose Creek contamination site and we are very concerned that the unforgiving chemical will reach our home in time. Who will take responsibility for decreasing our home's value, for jeopardizing our family's health and for ruining the land?

We need to take strong measures to protect our land and our water from contamination. PFAS should be restricted from use in Alaska.

Thank you for taking action.

Kristy Newman

Seth D. McKay

[REDACTED]

North Pole, AK 99705

March 2, 2020

PFAS water contamination has become a real troubling issue in Alaska. How can Alaska continue thriving if its residents are unable to drink clean water? We live a few miles from the Moose Creek contamination site and we are very concerned that the unforgiving chemical will reach our home in time. Who will take responsibility for decreasing our home's value, for jeopardizing our family's health and for ruining the land?

We need to take strong measures to protect our land and our water from contamination. PFAS should be restricted from use in Alaska.

Thank you for taking action.

Seth D. McKay