



SENATOR JESSE KIEHL

SB 67 ver. A: PFAS Pollution

Sponsor Statement

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of chemicals harmful to human health. They are linked to serious health conditions including low birth weight, thyroid disease, and cancer—even at extremely small concentrations.

They also make excellent ingredients in firefighting foams, in part because they resist breaking down. When firefighting foams or other compounds containing PFAS seep into drinking water, the toxic “forever chemicals” linger for years.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation declared PFAS hazardous substances several years ago. Senate Bill 67 protects Alaskans' health and prevents future pollution by banning PFAS foams unless federal law preempts. The bill also requires the state to take back small quantities of PFAS foam to ensure it's disposed of safely.

Because there is not yet an effective alternative for the intensity of fire threat oil & gas operations face at refineries or the Trans Alaska Pipeline terminal, the bill exempts those producing, transporting, or refining oil and gas until the State Fire Marshal determines an effective non-PFAS substance could do the job.

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