



July 14, 2023

The Honorable Thomas Carper
Chairman, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
513 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Ranking Member, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
172 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Carper and Ranking Member Capito,

On behalf of the Water Quality Association (WQA), a not-for-profit trade association representing 2,500 member companies in the residential, commercial, and industrial water treatment industry, we are writing to you regarding the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee's proposed legislation seeking to improve the mitigation of PFAS contamination.

WQA hopes you'll consider the following recommendations:

- **Section 10** - To ensure that products and technologies are tested, certified, and function as intended, we recommend revising Section 10(b) of the draft legislation to include that a national standard-setting organization is accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). Ultimately, this will help guarantee that any standards developed to address the detection, reduction, destruction, remediation, and verification of PFAS are developed in accordance with the ANSI consensus-based process. ANSI standards are established with the representation of all interested and affected stakeholders, including manufacturers, non-profits, advocacy organizations, government representatives (such as the EPA), and academia.
- **Protection for Passive Receivers** – Our members provide essential services that help remove several PFAS substances from drinking water. EPW should consider including a specific provision to ensure that the water treatment providers, which provide technologies to help prevent the consumption of these substances, be explicitly recognized as “passive receivers” of PFAS and afford these essential services a narrow exemption from liability under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). The focus should be on polluters responsible for releasing PFAS into the environment while liability protection is provided for public service providers or industries working to reduce PFAS's impact on human health.



Thank you in advance for putting forth this legislation and considering WQA's comments. We look forward to continuing to work with the committee on this important issue.

Sincerely,
Jeremy Pollack
Director of Government Affairs
Water Quality Association
jpollack@wqa.org

About WQA

Since its creation in 1974, WQA and its member companies have worked tirelessly to improve water quality through sustainable technologies and services. As a leader in the point-of-use (POU) and point-of-entry (POE) drinking water treatment system industry, the association operates an American National Standards Institute National Accreditation Board (ANAB) accredited testing and certification program that evaluates and certifies water filtration products to nationally accepted industry standards for contaminant removal. The association also operates a Professional Certification Program with a rigorous continued education component that qualifies a level of knowledge to enhance the application of the certified products. WQA also offers a variety of technical skills and educational resources, many of which can serve as vital tools as Congress aims to reduce PFAS in drinking water.