







May 1, 2025

Senator Andre Jacque 7 South 2 E. Main St. P.O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707

RE: SB 104 - Providing safe drinking water in public and private schools

Dear Senator Jacque,

On behalf of the American Supply Association (ASA), International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO), NSF, and the Water Quality Association (WQA), we want to thank you for your sponsorship of AB 129. This timely bill will greatly assist efforts to get contaminants out of Wisconsin schools—protecting children and faculty.

When requirements related to onsite water filtration technologies are placed into legislation, our industry supports two important recommendations:

- 1. Referencing the appropriate NSF/American National Standards Institute (NSF/ANSI) standards; and
- 2. Requiring accredited third-party certification of drinking water treatment devices, fixtures, and components.

To accomplish the goal set forth in this legislation, we recommend strengthening requirements for water filtration systems to meet the latest version of voluntary consensus standards and to be third-party certified. This will help ensure that water filtration systems used in remediating lead have been verified to do so.

We <u>strongly recommend</u> the following amendments be added to the list of stipulations provide clarification regarding lead remediation and treatment standards and the certification to reduce the concentration of lead in the drinking water to below the action level. The augmentations we are proposing are consistent with guidance from EPA as well as recent legislation at the Federal and state levels. This amended language simply adds the "latest version" of NSF/ANSI 53 & 42 to ensure the incorporation of the latest advancements of the standard in Wisconsin. Additionally, when applicable, treating the water near the tap through a certified NSF/ANSI 58 RO system would also help mitigate harmful contaminants including lead and allow for more remediation options for schools.

# Our organizations support AB 129 with the request that the following sections be amended, to include the proposed language below:

The apparatus filters water is certified to meet **the latest** NSF/ANSI standard 53 for lead reduction and perfluorooctanoic acid and perfluorooctane sulfonate reduction and NSF/ANSI standard 42 for particulate removal

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- i. Is designed to fill drinking bottles or other containers for personal water consumption.
- ii. Includes a drinking fountain with a consumable tap with or a replacement faucet that has been third-party certified to NSF/ANSI/CAN 61 for lead-free compliance and material safety.

Additionally, when drinking fountains or filtered pitchers are utilized in schools, the language below will assist in remediating contaminants from drinking water:

## For drinking fountains:

Drinking fountains with a consumable tap with or a replacement faucet that has been third-party certified to NSF/ANSI/CAN 61 for lead-free compliance and material safety.

- i. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for the installation, use, and maintenance of drinking water treatment systems.
- ii. Create and maintain a schedule that identifies the point of contact responsible for the installation and maintenance of drinking water treatment devices.

# For filtered water pitchers:

"Filtered pitcher" means a container used for holding and pouring liquids that at the point of use includes a water treatment product certified by third-party certifier.

- i. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for the installation, use, and maintenance of drinking water treatment systems.
- ii. Create and maintain a schedule that identifies the point of contact responsible for the installation and maintenance of drinking water treatment devices.

In closing, we support the spirit and intent of this bill and thank you again for your leadership on this important topic. We truly appreciate the opportunity to collaborate on this vital water quality legislation and would be happy to work together to answer questions surrounding water treatment.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen Rossi. Vice President of Advocacy, ASA Mark Osmack, Director of Government Relations, IAPMO Harold Chase, Legislative Director, NSF International Paige O'Malley, Government Affairs Manager, WQA

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#### **About ASA**

The American Supply Association is the national industry trade association representing distributors and their manufacturers and manufacturer representative agencies serving the PHCP & PVF channel. Serving wholesaler-distributors and their supply chain partners in the plumbing-heating-cooling-piping (PHCP) and industrial pipe-valve-fitting (PVF) industry, ASA is a one-stop-shop for legislative and regulatory advocacy, ongoing business intelligence, employee training and education and peer-to-peer networking.

#### **About IAPMO**

IAPMO was founded in 1926 by government officials in the US to protect public health and safety by developing the most progressive and technically advanced plumbing, mechanical and water efficiency codes in the world. A large part of IAPMO's work focuses on product testing for the industry. Our research and testing labs are capable of testing products to more than 400 standards and we provide testing to new plumbing products that enter the market every year. These include such devices as shower heads, faucets, and water filters. Our rigorous process includes following the criteria of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

### **About NSF**

NSF is an independent, not-for-profit organization founded in 1944 in Ann Arbor, MI that develops consensus national standards, provides product inspection, testing and certification, auditing, education, and related services in public health and safety. The core purpose of NSF is to "protect and improve human and environmental health." NSF has a long history of working with the EPA, FDA, USDA, CDC, and health related governmental entities at the state and local levels, as well as international bodies. NSF is a Collaborating Centre of the World Health Organization for Food Safety, Water Quality, and Medical Device Safety. NSF/ANSI 53 and NSF/ANSI 58, American National Standards developed by NSF, allow for the certification of some point of use and point of entry drinking water treatment units to reduce the levels of specified contaminants in drinking water including lead.

#### **About WQA**

WQA is a not-for-profit trade association representing the residential, commercial, and industrial water treatment industry with over 2,500 members worldwide who specialize in point-of-use (POU) and point-of-entry (POE) systems. WQA operates an accredited laboratory that conducts third-party testing and certification for products to nationally accepted industry standards for contaminant removal. The association also provides a Professional Certification Program with a rigorous continued education component to enhance the application of water treatment products.

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