

Email from Marguerite Adelman January 30, 2025

Dear Representatives Sheldon, Labor, Satcowitz, and Committee Assistant Adams,

I listened to today's (1/29/2025) Background on the PFAS Report. I was disappointed in the change in definition of PFAS, as well as the list of consumer products that the study thought were the most relevant to regulate in the future, and the elimination of PFAS in pesticides from the study group report.

First, definitions of PFAS matter! I refer you to the Safer States website for the reasons that definitions of PFAS matter so much today: <https://www.saferstates.org/resource/2025-safer-states-policy-toolkit/pfas-definitions/>

"At least 24 states have adopted a scientifically grounded definition of PFAS as organic chemicals containing "at least one fully fluorinated carbon atom." This definition is also consistent with the one adopted in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for 2020 and the definition used by the Organization for Economic and Cooperative Development (OECD), an international agency dedicated to promoting economic growth, prosperity and sustainable development. Over [150 PFAS scientists and researchers](#) from across the world have reaffirmed that this definition is the accurate and scientific definition of PFAS."

Second, there are many more products that have a high impact on consumers and on our environment. One of those items is toilet paper, a product widely used every day by everyone and that ends up in our wastewater system.

- <https://www.mamavation.com/brands/toilet-paper.html>
- <https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/does-toilet-paper-add-cancer-causing-pfas-to-our-wastewater>
- <https://www.ecowatch.com/pfas-toilet-paper-forever-chemicals.html>

Furthermore, the report does not appear to have a method for identifying products in the future that may arise with unnecessary PFAS in them. For example, smart and fitness watch bands: <https://chemtrust.org/news/pfas-forever-chemicals-smartwatch-bands/>

Finally, we cannot ignore PFAS IN pesticides....not just in pesticide containers. Sylvia Knight has created a fact sheet about VT pesticides that contain PFAS for you. I hope you've seen it, but if not, I'm attaching it to this email. These pesticides and PFAS end up in our food, endanger farm workers, and so much more. We can stop this craziness now. If you are not familiar with www.chemsec.org, please look at their website. They offer invaluable information on alternatives to PFAS and how to identify PFAS in products. A lot of what they have on their website is to help businesses be more socially and environmentally responsible.

We, the taxpayers, will end up paying for the remediation for these toxic chemicals and for the health care we will require in the 20+ years when the full effects of these accumulated PFAS hit many of us with cancers and other health issues.

Ask this study group to do more today to protect us, in order to save us all tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Marguerite Adelman

Vermont PFAS/Military Poisons Coalition member

Vermont Pesticide and Poison Action Network member

Anthropocene partner