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**2314 Benson Mill Road
Sparks, Maryland 21152
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Favorable SB 345

Pesticides – PFAS Chemicals – Prohibitions

Dear Chairman Feldman and Senate EEE Committee Members,

I am Emily Tarsell, a mother, licensed therapist and founder of Health Choice Maryland. We are all concerned about the environmental and health impact of toxins like PFAS including those in pesticides. While ideally we hope to be moving toward a world with healthier alternatives to toxic chemicals, we understand that will not happen overnight.

[A Consumer Reports article reviewed](#) some of the ways that PFAS chemicals have harmed human health including kidney disease, lowered immunity, lower birth weight and an increased risk for some cancers.

Unfortunately, PFAS chemicals are found in many products other than just pesticides. In 2022 Consumer Reports tests, PFAS chemicals were also found in 100 food packaging items as well as in bottled water, dental floss and nonstick cookware.

The only problem with this bill is that it doesn't go far enough and should include the elimination of PFAS chemicals more broadly. But it is a start and we urge you to give **SB345 a Favorable vote.**

Thank you.

Emily Tarsell, LCPC