

Support SB 719 (HB 925)

PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) are "forever chemicals" that persist in our environment and accumulate in human bodies. They have known and documented health effects (list of references at the end), including:

- Increased risk of infections due to weakened immune function
- Reduced vaccine response in children and adults (e.g., diminished antibodies to tetanus, diphtheria, MMR)
- General immunosuppression (classified as a "presumed immune hazard" by the National Toxicology Program)
- Multiple types of cancer
- Lipid and liver disorders
- Neurodevelopmental and Behavioral Effects
- Decreased fertility in women
- Reduced sperm count and motility in men
 - Hormonal disruption (especially thyroid and sex hormones)
- Increased risk of miscarriage
- Earlier onset of menopause
- Reduced birth weight
- Impaired insulin sensitivity
- Autoimmune and inflammatory diseases
- Cardiovascular and metabolic effects
- Bone density reduction

Regulating the sewage sludge is a critical step in protecting Maryland's families. The toxic waste dumped onto our land and into the water doesn't just affect the environment. It has a great impact on agriculture, water, and food supply. PFAS contaminates food and water, and is hard for consumers to avoid or mitigate. Thus we have to look at the source.

Please pass this bill and continue to look for other sources of contamination in our environment, water, and food.

Sincerely,
Mark Meyerovich
District 15

References

Agricultural sources, biosolids, and plant uptake

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- patterns and mode of occurrence. *Chemosphere*. 2016;161:333-341. doi:10.1016/j.chemosphere.2016.06.109.
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General PFAS class, occurrence, and testing frameworks

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Immune effects and vaccine response

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Cancer and chronic disease (touched on conceptually; only fully verified items listed)

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<https://popularrationalism.substack.com/p/from-big-chem-to-your-table-pfas>