

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 7289
OFFERED BY M . _____**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Federal PFAS Re-
3 search Evaluation Act”.

4 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

5 Congress finds the following:

6 (1) Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl sub-
7 stances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals
8 that have been used in a wide range of products
9 since the 1940s including firefighting foam, car-
10 peting, packaging, and cookware. There are more
11 than 5,000 types of registered PFAS compounds.
12 This chemical class is not currently regulated at the
13 Federal level.

14 (2) PFAS have been detected in air, water, soil,
15 food, biosolids, and more. They can accumulate and
16 remain in the body for a long time, and potentially
17 lead to serious health effects including cancer, low

1 infant birthweight, liver and kidney issues, reproduc-
2 tive and developmental problems, and more.

3 (3) There remains much unknown about PFAS
4 toxicity, human and environmental health effects, ex-
5 posure pathways, as well as effective removal, treat-
6 ment, and destruction methods, and safe alternatives
7 to PFAS.

8 (4) Federal research efforts have been frag-
9 mented at various agencies and struggled to effec-
10 tively address the full scope of challenges presented
11 by PFAS.

12 (5) Regulatory action and cleanup depend on
13 scientific analysis of toxicity data, decision making
14 on how best to deal with PFAS, and understanding
15 the significance of the many exposure pathways that
16 exist. A consensus study by the National Academies
17 of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine would help
18 inform decisions by Federal and State Governments,
19 industry, and other stakeholders on how to best ad-
20 dress PFAS.

21 **SEC. 3. NATIONAL ACADEMIES REPORTS.**

22 (a) RESEARCH ASSESSMENTS OF PFAS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
24 the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator
25 of the Environmental Protection Agency, in con-

1 sultation with the Director of the National Science
2 Foundation, the Secretary of Defense, the Director
3 of the National Institutes of Health, and other Fed-
4 eral agencies with expertise relevant to under-
5 standing PFAS exposure, behavior, and toxicity,
6 shall enter into an agreement with the National
7 Academies to conduct a study and submit a report
8 in accordance with this subsection to further address
9 research and knowledge gaps identified by the Fed-
10 eral Government Human Health PFAS Research
11 Workshop held on October 26 and 27, 2020, and
12 identify research and development needed to iden-
13 tify, categorize, evaluate, and address individual or
14 total PFAS.

15 (2) STUDY AND REPORT ON HUMAN EXPOSURE
16 ESTIMATION.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—The study required to
18 be conducted under paragraph (1) shall, at a
19 minimum—

20 (i) consider life-cycle information on
21 the manufacture, use, and disposal of
22 PFAS-containing products to identify po-
23 tential human exposure sources, including
24 occupational exposures, and potential expo-
25 sure pathways for the public;

1 (ii) evaluate the fate and transport of
2 PFAS and their breakdown products;

3 (iii) if feasible, estimate human expo-
4 sure to individual or total PFAS to deter-
5 mine relative source contributions for var-
6 ious exposure pathways (such as air,
7 water, soil, or food);

8 (iv) determine the range of solubility,
9 stability, and volatility of PFAS most like-
10 ly to be found in the environment and the
11 resulting prevalence in animals and hu-
12 mans;

13 (v) give consideration as to whether
14 chemical category-based approaches would
15 be appropriate for evaluating PFAS tox-
16 icity and exposure;

17 (vi) identify research needed to ad-
18 vance exposure estimation to individual or
19 total PFAS; and

20 (vii) identify research needed to ad-
21 vance toxicity and hazard assessment of in-
22 dividual or total PFAS.

23 (B) REPORT.—Not later than 540 days
24 after the date on which the agreement described
25 in paragraph (1) is finalized, the National

1 Academies shall submit to Congress a report
2 containing the findings and recommendations of
3 the study described in subparagraph (A) and
4 shall make such report available on a publicly
5 accessible website.

6 (b) RESEARCH ASSESSMENT OF MANAGEMENT AND
7 TREATMENT ALTERNATIVES FOR PFAS CONTAMINATION
8 IN THE ENVIRONMENT.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
10 the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator
11 of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Di-
12 rector of the National Science Foundation, in con-
13 sultation with the Secretary of Defense and other
14 Federal agencies with expertise relevant to the devel-
15 opment of PFAS alternatives and the management
16 and treatment of PFAS, shall jointly enter into an
17 agreement with the National Academies to conduct
18 a study and submit a report in accordance with this
19 subsection to better understand the research and de-
20 velopment needed to advance the understanding of
21 the extent and implications of human and environ-
22 mental contamination by PFAS, how to manage and
23 treat such contamination, and the development of
24 safe alternatives.

1 (2) SCOPE OF STUDY.—The study described in
2 paragraph (1) shall, at a minimum, include the fol-
3 lowing:

4 (A) An assessment of the best available
5 strategies for PFAS treatment, site remedi-
6 ation, and safe disposal, including demonstra-
7 tion or pilot projects related to destruction
8 methods and alternative materials or tools for
9 firefighters.

10 (B) A description of the research gaps re-
11 lating to such issues, including consideration of
12 emerging or future PFAS and potential classi-
13 fication methods.

14 (C) Recommendations on how the Federal
15 Government can best address the research
16 needs identified pursuant to subparagraph (B)
17 through increased collaboration or coordination
18 of existing and new programs.

19 (D) Recommendations on how research can
20 best incorporate considerations of socioeconomic
21 issues into the development of research pro-
22 posals and the conduct of research.

23 (3) REPORT.—Not later than 540 days after
24 the date on which the agreement described in para-
25 graph (1) is finalized, the National Academies shall

1 submit to Congress a report containing the findings
2 and recommendations of the study described in
3 paragraph (2) and shall make such report available
4 on a publicly accessible website.

5 (c) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is
6 authorized to be appropriated \$3,000,000 to the Adminis-
7 trator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry
8 out this section.

9 **SEC. 4. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.**

10 Not later than 180 days after submission to Congress
11 of latest of the National Academies reports under section
12 3, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology
13 Policy, in coordination with all relevant Federal agencies,
14 shall submit to Congress an implementation plan for in-
15 creased collaboration and coordination of Federal PFAS
16 research, development, and demonstration activities. In
17 preparing such an implementation plan, the Director shall
18 take into consideration the recommendations included in
19 the reports in section 3.

20 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

21 In this Act:

22 (1) **NATIONAL ACADEMIES.**—The term “Na-
23 tional Academies” means the National Academies of
24 Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

1 (2) PFAS.—The term “PFAS” means per- and
2 polyfluoroalkyl substances.

