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Congress of the United States
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DISTRICT OFFICES:
115 EAST GLENDALE AVENUE, SUITE I
GLENDALE, PA 19038
215-884-4300

101 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE A
NORRISTOWN, PA 19401
610-382-1250

1 April 2022

Environmental Quality Board (EQB)
P.O. Box 8477
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8477

Re: Public Comment on New PFAS Drinking Water Regulation

I write today to respond to your request for public comment on the Proposed New PFAS Drinking Water Regulation.

The proposed rule would set an MCL of 14 parts per trillion (ppt) for PFOA and an MCL of 18 ppt for PFOS, which are stricter limits compared to the United States Environmental Protection Agency's lifetime Health Advisory Level (HAL) of 70 ppt for PFOS and PFOA combined.

While this proposed rulemaking represents an unprecedented step of setting a Pennsylvania-specific MCL for drinking water and I applaud those efforts, we all know—**no level of PFAs is proven safe in our drinking water.** We have the technology to filter drinking water to non-detectable levels and urge the DEP to strive for all drinking water to be at the non-detectable level.

Per the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's (ATSDR) current Minimum Reporting Level (MRL) and the guidance of their March 2020 Toxicological Profile for Perfluoroalkyls,¹ the MCL must be much lower than the current Health Advisory Level (HAL) of 70ppt.

¹ ATSDR. 2020. Toxicological Profile for Perfluoroalkyls Draft for Public Comment. Atlanta, GA: Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service. <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxprofiles/tp200.pdf>. Updated March 2020.

Local water authorities and private water providers should be held to a standard that provides safe, clean drinking water for all —and that standard is nondetectable.

Article I Section 27 of the Pennsylvania constitution states: **The people have a right to clean air, pure water, and to the preservation of the natural, scenic, historic, and esthetic values of the environment.**

The people have the right and Pennsylvania DEP has the opportunity to be a leader in addressing this issue head-on and making the choice for zero detection for PFAs. We cannot wait to make what we know is the safer, correct choice for the health of our communities and our planet.

I urge you to take urgent action and set the MCL to non-detect so that the imperative work of providing clean drinking water to every Pennsylvanian can begin.

Sincerely,



Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress
Pennsylvania 4th Congressional District