



May 16, 2023

Co-Chairs Edgmon, Foster, Johnson
House Finance Committee
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Sent via email

Dear Co-Chairs and Members of the House Finance Committee,

I am writing to express Native Peoples Action's support for Senate Bill 67: PFAS Use & Remediation; Fire/Water Safety.

Native Peoples Action is a statewide organization that strives to provide Alaska Native communities and our traditional values with a voice at all levels of policy making. The foundation of our work focuses on advocacy, education and information sharing, supporting local decision-making, and building stronger unity among Indigenous communities to collectively address issues impacting our ways of life.

Over 30 communities and 135 individual sites have tested positive for PFAS contamination according to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Spill Prevention and Response. PFAS, when it gets into drinking water, puts Alaskans at greater health risks - thyroid disease, decreased fertility, decreased birth weight, immune suppression, liver disease, and certain cancers - studies have shown that Alaska Natives suffer at a greater risk for certain cancers.

SB 67 would:

- Set health-protective limits on the amount of PFAS in drinking water.
- Provide Alaskans with clean drinking water if their water is contaminated.
- Allow for voluntary blood testing of affected community members and first responders.
- Prevent future pollution by replacing the use of PFAS-based firefighting foams in favor of safer alternatives.

We believe the above measures are reasonable, proactive, and will ultimately protect Alaskans from the detrimental effects of PFAS exposure.



Gunalchéesh/Háw'aa/Quyana/Mahsi'/Baasee'/Maasee'/Dogedinh/Thank you,

Jackie Arnaciar Boyer
Deputy Director
Native Peoples Action