



## SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

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### **Oregon Senate Votes to Protect Firefighters, Environment**

*Environmental advocates and first responders support the phase-out*

**SALEM, OR** – In a bipartisan vote Tuesday, Oregon Senators passed (27 to 3) a ban on perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) in foam substances that fire departments use to put out fires. PFAS are chemicals that persist without breaking down for very long periods, and scientific studies have found they are harmful to people and animals.

The measure requires fire departments to switch to PFAS-free alternatives by July 1, 2026, using a phase-out approach.

“Fire stations I represent in Forest Grove and the Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue district already don’t use PFAS foam,” said **Senator Janeen Sollman (D – Washington County)**. “This bill will make sure firefighters and waterways are protected from these harmful chemicals in every corner of the state.”

In a Senate committee hearing on SB 91, advocates from fire departments and environmental organizations supported the legislation.

The Oregon Fire Chiefs Association told the committee the bill would make firefighting a safer profession and reduce the risks of occupational diseases. The Oregon Environmental Council called the bill an important action to remove a pollutant from the environment and support a healthier Oregon.

The bill goes next to the Oregon House of Representatives for consideration.

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