

HR 4954

PFAS Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Emergency Management

Introduced: Aug 6, 2021

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management. (Aug 9, 2021)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4954>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Dingell, Debbie [D-MI-12]

Party: Democratic • **State:** MI • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-1]	R · PA		Aug 6, 2021
Rep. Maloney, Carolyn B. [D-NY-12]	D · NY		Aug 10, 2021
Rep. Espaillat, Adriano [D-NY-13]	D · NY		Nov 18, 2021
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		Nov 18, 2021
Rep. Posey, Bill [R-FL-8]	R · FL		Nov 18, 2021
Rep. Ross, Deborah K. [D-NC-2]	D · NC		Nov 18, 2021
Rep. Bonamici, Suzanne [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Dec 20, 2021
Rep. Schrier, Kim [D-WA-8]	D · WA		Dec 20, 2021
Rep. Courtney, Joe [D-CT-2]	D · CT		Mar 24, 2022
Rep. Miller-Meeks, Mariannette [R-IA-2]	R · IA		Mar 24, 2022
Rep. Stevens, Haley M. [D-MI-11]	D · MI		Apr 14, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Science, Space, and Technology Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 6, 2021
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 9, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Emergency Management

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 S 231	Related bill	Dec 20, 2022: Became Public Law No: 117-248.

Summary (as of Aug 6, 2021)

Protecting Firefighters from Adverse Substances Act or the PFAS Act

This bill requires the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to develop guidance for firefighters and other emergency response personnel on training, education programs, and best practices to protect them from exposure to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, commonly referred to as PFASs, from firefighting foam and to prevent the release of PFASs into the environment. These substances are man-made and may have adverse human health effects. A variety of products contain the compounds, such as nonstick cookware or weatherproof clothing.

DHS shall make available a curriculum designed to

- reduce and eliminate exposure to PFAS from firefighting foam and personal protective equipment (PPE);
- prevent the release of PFAS from firefighting foam into the environment; and
- educate firefighters and other emergency response personnel on foams and non-foam alternatives, PPE, and other firefighting tools and equipment that do not contain PFAS.

The U.S. Fire Administration shall make recommendations to DHS on the content of the curriculum.

DHS must create an online public repository containing tools and best practices to reduce, limit, and prevent the release of and exposure to PFASs.

Actions Timeline

- **Aug 9, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management.
- **Aug 6, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Aug 6, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Research and Technology.
- **Aug 6, 2021:** Referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.