



LEGISLATORS FAQ

1. What is the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) doing to address and regulate PFAS?



EPA has initiated the regulatory [process](#) for listing PFOA and PFOS as hazardous substances pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and many state cleanup programs.



EPA developed draft [recommendations](#) for cleaning up groundwater contaminated with PFOA and PFOS. When finalized, the recommendations will provide a starting point for making site-specific cleanup decisions.



EPA is currently taking comments regarding adding certain PFAS to the Toxics Release Inventory.



EPA announced in February 2020 that it will move forward with establishing drinking water standards for PFOA and PFOS in drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act process.

For more information, see EPA's [PFAS Action Plan](#) and related [factsheet](#). For other EPA updates, visit [EPA's website](#).

2. What kind of funding or support is needed to assist the state on this issue?

State and local environmental and health agencies need sufficient and sustained funding and support to adequately address PFAS contamination.

This includes supporting directives that require manufacturers and others to be held responsible so that the burden for covering treatment costs does not fall on water utilities, consumers, and/or private well owners.

3. How is Congress working to address this issue?

Congress is actively involved in PFAS legislation.

Congress is holding hearings and introducing bills that target agencies working on PFAS or sources of exposure. Examples include urging EPA to create a maximum contaminant level under the Safe Drinking Water Act and to designate PFAS as hazardous under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act; establishing a bipartisan Congressional PFAS Task Force; and requiring the Department of Defense to clean up contaminated sites.

Read more about the PFAS Action Act of 2019 and other Congressional PFAS activities in the proposed [PFAS Action Act of 2019](#) and [National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020](#).



4. What types of legislation has been or is being passed in the states to address PFAS contamination?

A number of states have enacted or are in the process of enacting legislation to address some PFAS chemicals and contamination.

These include bills that set aside funding to monitor and treat certain PFAS compounds, require biomonitoring studies on health effects of PFAS, order testing of water systems for PFAS contamination, ban aqueous film forming foams or food packaging containing PFAS, and set state-specific standards or guidance values for PFAS regulation.

For specific examples, see the National Conference of State Legislatures' [PFAS page](#) on state efforts, the Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council's (ITRC) [tables](#) of state PFAS standards and guidance values, and the Environmental Council of the States' (ECOS) [white paper](#) on processes and considerations for setting state PFAS standards.