FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Rep. John Nygren

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Bill Regulating PFAS Firefighting Foam Signed into Law

Madison--State Representative John Nygren (R-Marinette), released the following statement upon Gov. Evers signing into law legislation aimed at curbing and regulating the use of firefighting foams containing PFAS:

"Today I am proud to announce that the bill that I authored with Senator Cowles (R-Green Bay) to curb the use of firefighting foam containing PFAS was signed into law," said Rep. Nygren. "PFAS contamination of groundwater is a serious issue in northeastern Wisconsin and a growing problem in other areas of the state due in large part to the uncontained use of these foams."

Under the bill, using and training with Class B and dual-action firefighting foams containing intentionally-added PFAS would generally be prohibited. The prohibition does not apply to first responders using the foam in emergency firefighting or fire prevention operations. The foam could also be used in certain testing activities, but only if appropriate containment, treatment, disposal and storage methods, as determined by rule by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), are in place. The bill and its amendments were drafted with input provided by DNR.

"PFAS contamination is a complex and constantly evolving issue that will not be solved by this bill alone. However, source reduction is a key step in keeping this problem from getting worse."

"I would like to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their commitment and engagement on this issue", said Rep Nygren. "I also commend Gov. Evers for signing this bill into law and demonstrating we can make positive progress in a bipartisan fashion."

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