



WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

LORI PALMERI

54TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Rep. Lori Palmeri, 608-237-9154

Rep. Lori Palmeri Celebrates New Groundwater Contamination Standards

MADISON, Wis. – In April of 2024, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released federal drinking water standards for six different PFAS chemicals. Today, during the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) fourth attempt to establish groundwater standards for PFAS, the Wisconsin Natural Resources Board unanimously approved the adoption of Board Order DG-02-25.

The new rule sets numeric standards to help reduce the overall concentration of PFAS in groundwater. In addition, the Board approved the statement of scope for Board Order DG-01-26, authorizing DNR to hold a public hearing and further evaluate the possibility of setting numeric standards to address concentration of pesticides, including neonicotinoids, in Wisconsin groundwater.

Rep. Lori Palmeri (D – Oshkosh) provided the following statement:

“I am very pleased that the Department of Natural Resources now has the authority to start addressing the overwhelming issue of groundwater contamination. Seven out of ten people in Wisconsin - about 4.1 million - rely on groundwater for their drinking water. PFAS and pesticide contamination of groundwater is both an environmental issue and a public health emergency in Wisconsin and across the country. While this is an excellent step forward, there is more work to be done, and we must take proactive steps as a legislature to prevent this contamination in the first place.”

“I want to express my sincere gratitude to the many organizations and individuals who came together to make these new rules a reality. Thank you. This success is the direct result of collaboration between community members, government agencies, advocates, and scientists who commit to making Wisconsin a better place. These results exemplify the difference that community members can make when joined together for the common good.”

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