
Sent via email to: SLegislation@rilegislature.gov

April 29, 2026

TO: Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture

RE: Senate bill 2799 – Consumer PFAS Ban Act of 2024

Save The Bay **SUPPORTS** the proposed changes to the Consumer Products PFAS Ban Act of 2024 in Senate bill 2799.

Perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or “PFAS”, are a class of chemical compounds that are both extremely toxic and incredibly persistent in the environment, making them one of the greatest environmental challenges of our time. Given the difficulty in treating and removing PFAS from the environment after the fact, the best approach is for state and federal governments to work to remove PFAS from products where safer alternatives exist. The legislation – now law – passed by the General Assembly in 2024 does exactly that, and mirrors similar laws passed in other states in recent years.

The proposed changes to the law in S2799 were submitted at the request of the Department of Environmental Management and appear to strengthen the law by providing clarity and making it easier for the Department to enforce. We do have some reservations about the proposed language that gives the Director of DEM the authority to grant exemptions to the law for certain products or product categories that meet specific criteria. We trust that this will only be invoked when absolutely necessary and not be used to create blanket exemptions to the law.

As always, the Department could use additional resources and staffing to enforce this and other environmental laws and rules. We ask that the General Assembly consider increasing the Department’s full-time employee (FTE) cap and budget for environmental permitting and enforcement.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,



Jed Thorp
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