

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3851**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Kate Hogan and Jennifer E. Benson*

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act establishing an interagency PFAS task force.

PETITION OF:

| NAME:                              | DISTRICT/ADDRESS:                        |
|------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Kate Hogan</i>                  | <i>3rd Middlesex</i>                     |
| <i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>          | <i>37th Middlesex</i>                    |
| <i>Julian Cyr</i>                  | <i>Cape and Islands</i>                  |
| <i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>         | <i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i> |
| <i>William L. Crocker, Jr.</i>     | <i>2nd Barnstable</i>                    |
| <i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>        | <i>1st Worcester</i>                     |
| <i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>            | <i>15th Suffolk</i>                      |
| <i>Dylan A. Fernandes</i>          | <i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>   |
| <i>Maria Duaine Robinson</i>       | <i>6th Middlesex</i>                     |
| <i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>          | <i>7th Middlesex</i>                     |
| <i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>           | <i>1st Barnstable</i>                    |
| <i>Randy Hunt</i>                  | <i>5th Barnstable</i>                    |
| <i>Brian W. Murray</i>             | <i>10th Worcester</i>                    |
| <i>Hannah Kane</i>                 | <i>11th Worcester</i>                    |
| <i>David K. Muradian, Jr.</i>      | <i>9th Worcester</i>                     |
| <i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>           | <i>8th Middlesex</i>                     |
| <i>Michael J. Soter</i>            | <i>8th Worcester</i>                     |
| <i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i> | <i>17th Worcester</i>                    |

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Natalie M. Blais</i>       | <i>1st Franklin</i>                 |
| <i>David Paul Linsky</i>      | <i>5th Middlesex</i>                |
| <i>Linda Dean Campbell</i>    | <i>15th Essex</i>                   |
| <i>Christine P. Barber</i>    | <i>34th Middlesex</i>               |
| <i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i>    | <i>15th Middlesex</i>               |
| <i>Ryan C. Fattman</i>        | <i>Worcester and Norfolk</i>        |
| <i>Ann-Margaret Ferrante</i>  | <i>5th Essex</i>                    |
| <i>Donald F. Humason, Jr.</i> | <i>Second Hampden and Hampshire</i> |
| <i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>  | <i>3rd Berkshire</i>                |
| <i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>  | <i>20th Middlesex</i>               |
| <i>James B. Eldridge</i>      | <i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>      |
| <i>Sarah K. Peake</i>         | <i>4th Barnstable</i>               |
| <i>Tami L. Gouveia</i>        | <i>14th Middlesex</i>               |
| <i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>    | <i>1st Hampshire</i>                |
| <i>John C. Velis</i>          | <i>4th Hampden</i>                  |
| <i>Paul R. Feeney</i>         | <i>Bristol and Norfolk</i>          |
| <i>James K. Hawkins</i>       | <i>2nd Bristol</i>                  |
| <i>Carole A. Fiola</i>        | <i>6th Bristol</i>                  |

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3851**

By Representatives Hogan of Stow and Benson of Lunenburg, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Kate Hogan, Jennifer E. Benson and others for legislation to establish a task force to review and investigate water and ground contamination of per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**

An Act establishing an interagency PFAS task force.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to address the emerging crisis of PFAS contamination, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           There shall be an interagency PFAS task force to review and investigate water and  
2 ground contamination of per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances across the Commonwealth. The task  
3 force shall consist of 18 members: 2 members who shall be appointed by the senate president,  
4 one of whom shall serve as co-chair; 1 member who shall be appointed by the minority leader of  
5 the senate; 2 members who shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, one  
6 of whom shall serve as co-chair; 1 member who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the  
7 house of representatives; the attorney general of Massachusetts or their designee; the secretary of  
8 the executive office of energy and environmental affairs or their designee; the secretary of the  
9 executive office of public safety and security or their designee; the commissioner of the  
10 department of environmental protection or their designee; the commissioner of the department of

11 public health or their designee; the commissioner of the department of agricultural resources or  
12 their designee; the director of the Massachusetts emergency management agency or their  
13 designee; the fire marshal of the department of fire services or their designee; the executive  
14 director of the Massachusetts municipal association or their designee; the executive director of  
15 the Massachusetts water resources authority or their designee; the executive director of the  
16 Massachusetts water works association or their designee; and a scientist with expertise in per-and  
17 polyfluoroalkyl substance-contaminated water appointed by the governor.

18         The task force shall: (i) gather and review information regarding known locations of per-  
19 and polyfluoroalkyl substances detection and create response plan strategies; (ii) identify  
20 significant data gaps in the knowledge of per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances and develop  
21 recommendations to address the gaps; (iii) identify opportunities for public education regarding  
22 per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination and the effects of its exposure on public health  
23 and the environment; (iv) identify the sources of per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances  
24 contamination and exposure pathways that pose the greatest risk to public health and the  
25 environment; (v) examine the benefits and burdens of various treatment and disposal options for  
26 per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances contaminated media; (vi) assess how state agencies can most  
27 effectively use their existing authority and resources to reduce or eliminate priority risks from  
28 per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination; (vii) determine the inventory and use of  
29 fluorinated aqueous forming form in firefighting and fire training activities and evaluate effective  
30 non-fluorinated alternatives; and (viii) examine data regarding per-and polyfluoroalkyl  
31 substances contamination in freshwater fish and marine organisms and determine whether further  
32 examination is warranted; and (ix) examine and estimate the cost to mitigate per-and  
33 polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination in known locations across the Commonwealth.

34           The task force shall file a report of its findings and recommendations, together with drafts  
35 of legislation necessary to carry those recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the  
36 clerks of the senate and the house of representatives, the chairs of the senate and house  
37 committees on ways and means, the senate and house chairs of the joint committee on  
38 environment, natural resources and agriculture, the senate and house chairs of the joint  
39 committee on public health, the senate and house chairs of the joint committee on the judiciary,  
40 the senate and house chairs of the joint committee on public safety and homeland security not  
41 later than December 31, 2020.