2019 SENATE BILL 310


AN ACT to create 299.48 of the statutes; relating to: regulating fire fighting foam that contains certain contaminants and granting rule-making authority.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill prohibits the use of fire fighting foams that are designed for use on a flammable liquid fire and that contain intentionally added perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), unless used in emergency fire fighting or fire prevention operations; or unless used for testing purposes if the testing facility has in place appropriate containment, treatment, and disposal measures, as determined by rule by the Department of Natural Resources. A person who violates this prohibition is subject to the same penalty that applies under current law to other general environmental provisions, which is a forfeiture of between $10 and $5,000 for each violation.

For further information see the state and local fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1. 299.48 of the statutes is created to read:

299.48 Fire fighting foam containing PFAS. (1) Definitions. In this section:
(a) “Class B fire fighting foam” means a foam designed for use on a flammable liquid fire.

(b) “PFAS” means a perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substance.

(2) PROHIBITION. Except as provided under sub. (3), no person may use or otherwise discharge, including for training purposes, a class B fire fighting foam that contains intentionally added PFAS.

(3) EXEMPTIONS. The prohibition under sub. (2) does not apply to any of the following:

(a) The use or discharge of a class B fire fighting foam that contains intentionally added PFAS as part of an emergency fire fighting or fire prevention operation.

(b) The use of class B fire fighting foam that contains intentionally added PFAS for testing purposes, including calibration testing, conformance testing, or fixed system testing, if the testing facility has implemented appropriate containment, treatment, and disposal measures to prevent releases of the foam to the environment.

(4) CONSTRUCTION. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the manufacture, sale, or distribution of a class B fire fighting foam that contains intentionally added PFAS.

(5) RULES. The department shall promulgate rules to implement and administer this section, including to determine appropriate containment, treatment, and disposal measures for testing facilities under sub. (3) (b).

SECTION 2. Nonstatutory provisions.
(1) The department of natural resources shall use the procedure under s. 227.24 to promulgate rules under s. 299.48 (5) no later than the first day of the 7th month beginning after the effective date of this subsection.

**SECTION 3. Effective dates.** This act takes effect on the first day of the 7th month beginning after publication, except as follows:

(1) **SECTION 2 (1) of this act takes effect on the day after publication.**