Contact: Rep. Jill Billings

608-266-5780



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 22, 2024

Rep. Billings Statement on PFAS Groundwater Standards Amendment

Madison – Today, Representative Billings introduced an amendment in the Wisconsin State Assembly to allow the Department of Natural Resources to establish standards for PFAS contamination in groundwater. Rep. Billings released the following statement:

"My amendment in the Assembly today was a chance for us to pass meaningful legislation that would allow the state government to combat the unsafe water that is currently flowing in our communities. Unfortunately, the Republican members of the Assembly voted down this amendment and instead passed a flawed and incomplete bill that the Governor has said he has no intention of signing."

"PFAS is an urgent issue in communities across the state. In my district, residents of the Town of Campbell have relied on bottled water for nearly three years because of PFAS contamination that has tainted their wells. We need real, effective measures to address PFAS contamination in groundwater in Wisconsin. The DNR's efforts to create groundwater standards for PFAS contamination were halted in December and this proposal was a critical measure to allow their work to continue."

"I have been working on this issue with Representative Katrina Shankland, who also introduced an amendment to take action and combat PFAS contamination. Her amendment would have removed the parts of the problematic bill passed by Republicans that would impede the efforts of DNR to remediate PFAS and prevent transparency about PFAS contamination. Unfortunately, her amendment was also rejected by the Republican majority."

"For years, I have worked on legislation and spoken on the floor about PFAS contamination and I will not rest on this issue until we've addressed it properly. Water safety is important for every Wisconsinite's health and safety and I will continue to advocate for meaningful change."

###