



STATE SENATOR
Eric Wimberger
DISTRICT 2

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Wimberger Reintroduces Landmark PFAS Legislation

MADISON – Senator Eric Wimberger (R-Oconto) released the following statement after he introduced two bills with Representative Jeff Mursau to create guidelines and programs addressing PFAS contamination in Wisconsin:

“For too long, communities across Wisconsin have been hurting from PFAS contamination infiltrating public water systems and private wells. Testing and treating bodies of water impacted by these ‘forever chemicals’ can be incredibly expensive, especially for innocent landowners whose property contains PFAS through no fault of their own. My colleagues and I are again introducing PFAS relief legislation, providing local governments and landowners with the guidelines and resources they need to responsibly test, treat, and remediate these chemicals from Wisconsin’s land and waters, both now and into the future.”

Governor Evers vetoed our initial effort to fight these substances last session, claiming protections for innocent landowners contained a secret “polluter loophole” he has yet to identify. Unfortunately, [since the Governor has repeatedly refused to provide language](#) defining who he thinks should qualify as an innocent landowner, needed relief was delayed while the Legislature was forced to play a veto guessing game. Introducing innocent landowner protections as a standalone bill ensures not only those critical measures get the factual debate they deserve, but also that Governor Evers and legislative Democrats can no longer play politics by holding up community-supported PFAS reform and relief.”

LRB 2168, which addresses PFAS contamination, largely mirrors [Senator Wimberger’s Senate Bill 312](#) from last session. These measures have support from the Wisconsin Towns Association, Wisconsin League of Municipalities, Wisconsin Counties Association, Wisconsin Farm Bureau, and numerous other PFAS-affected communities and stakeholders throughout the state. The Governor vetoed Senate Bill 312 in its entirety last year, claiming the bill would limit DNR authority and create a secret “polluter loophole.” In truth, the bill identified a narrow list of innocent landowners nearly identical to the parties the Biden EPA held not liable for contamination.

LRB 2170 mirrors the innocent landowner protections outlined in LRB 2168. Introducing these critical protections – both as part of a comprehensive relief package with LRB 2168, and as a standalone bill – will ensure victims of PFAS pollution get the debate they deserve.

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State Senator Eric Wimberger is a former Marine Captain, attorney, and small business owner. He serves as a member of the Joint Committee on Finance and Co-Chair of the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. He represents the 2nd Senate District, including parts of Brown, Menominee, Oconto, Outagamie, Shawano, and Waupaca Counties.

A media kit for Senator Wimberger can be found [here](#).