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President Felzkowski Reacts to Evers' PFAS Proposal

Madison, WI- Senate President Mary Felzkowski (R-Tomahawk) issued the following statement after Governor Evers' new budget proposal to address PFAS contamination was announced:

"PFAS contamination is a priority for me given the prevalence of contamination in my district," said President Felzkowski. "I'm disappointed, however, that the Governor is now proposing legislation that so closely resembles the Republican proposal that he vetoed last year for political purposes."

2023 Senate Bill 312 would have provided \$125 million for PFAS relief while providing the legal framework needed to ensure accountability within a DNR that has lacked leadership and oversight for over a year. The bill also included necessary protections for innocent landowners- individuals who have PFAS on their private properties through no fault of their own. Without protections for these innocent landowners, remediation funds go unused. Few come forward to test for PFAS when the DNR has unrestrained power to issue large fines for clean-up costs to individuals who were not the polluters.

"It is imperative that PFAS legislation includes protections for innocent landowners and does not result in a slush fund for the unaccountable DNR," said President Felzkowski. "I am hopeful that this is a sign that the Governor will soon come to the table for an actual discussion about how to best support Wisconsinites impacted by these chemicals."