

RESOLUTION 2018- 130

A RESOLUTION OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, CONCERNING THE PERSISTENCE AND PROLIFERATION OF PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL COMPOUNDS (PFAS) IN THE ENVIRONMENT AND IN THE HUMAN BODY; RECENT TEST RESULTS DEMONSTRATING CONCENTRATIONS OF THESE COMPOUNDS IN THE GROUNDWATER IN FEDERAL, COUNTY, AND CITY JURISDICTIONS; THE LACK OF STATE REGULATORY GUIDANCE TO ADDRESS THESE COMPOUNDS; REQUESTING STATE ASSISTANCE AND TESTING; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS**, state and local governments throughout the United States are finding that per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have become significant sources of ground water pollution that can affect drinking water, irrigation sources, and adjacent water bodies; and

**WHEREAS**, PFAS compounds are a group of man-made chemicals that includes PFOA, PFOS, GenX, and many other chemicals, which have been manufactured and used in a variety of industries around the globe, including in the United States since the 1940s, and these chemicals, since they are persistent in the environment and in the human body, can lead to adverse human health effects; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Defense (DOD) issued a report dated March 2018 entitled "Addressing Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) by Maurine Sullivan, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, which identified PFOS and PFOA compounds in a number of military installations throughout Florida including Patrick Air Force Base (PAFB) and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (CCAFS); and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016 the US Environmental Protection Agency issued a "Drinking Water Health Advisory" limitation for the sum of PFOS and PFOA compounds of 70 ppt, which is not a regulatory standard, and has been decreased since 2009 from 400 ppt; and

**WHEREAS**, the March 2018 DOD report listed PAFB sites with concentrations of PFOS and PFOA ranging from 71 parts per trillion to 4.2 million parts per trillion (ppt) and CCAFS sites with concentrations of PFOS and PFOA ranging from 74 ppt to 53,000 ppt; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Satellite Beach, at the request of several community members, undertook testing of the City's groundwater for PFOS and PFOA on three monitoring wells, which showed results ranging from 23 ppt to 43 ppt; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Cocoa Beach also received numerous requests for groundwater testing for PFOS and PFOA compounds and tested two existing groundwater wells on the golf course, the influent and effluent at the Wastewater Plant, and the vault on PAFB property before it enters the city collection, which showed results ranging from 130 ppt to 430 ppt; and

**WHEREAS**, Brevard County also received requests for groundwater testing for PFOS and PFOA compounds and tested four existing well locations in Satellite Beach and Melbourne Beach, which showed results ranging from 6 ppt to 26 ppt; and

**WHEREAS**, the School Board, after receiving requests from parents concerned with possible drinking water contamination, tested potable drinking fountains for 21 PFAS compounds in their 13 beachside schools which showed results ranging from 2.5 ppt to 12 ppt for pentafluorobenzic acid (PFBA); and

**WHEREAS**, other state governments have set drinking water standards for these PFAS compounds at levels lower than the Federal Health Advisory Level, such as New Jersey, whose state regulatory standard is 27 ppt; and

**WHEREAS**, other state governments have set monthly, annual and lifetime screening values for the consumption of fish including a New Jersey recommendation of no more than 73,000 ppt per year; and

**WHEREAS**, the differing advisories and standards and lack of a State of Florida regulatory standard is confusing to residents of our county and cities; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Satellite Beach is seeking a partnership with the City of Cocoa Beach, Brevard County, and Brevard Public Schools to make a joint request to the State of Florida to develop state standards for PFAS compounds to give definitive direction to local government agencies for drinking, irrigation and recreational water use, fish consumption, and for remediation to address the safety concerns of the public; and

**WHEREAS**, local governments, which have no influence, control, or authority to address these compounds, now must respond to citizen concerns and fears regarding the proliferation of these compounds in our groundwater and our water bodies and need the state to respond to these areas for investigation and possible remediation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners of Brevard County, Florida, recommends:

**SECTION 1.** That the Florida Department of Environmental Protection develop state regulatory standards for PFAS compounds for drinking water, irrigation, recreational water use and fish consumption.

**SECTION 2.** That the State of Florida conduct ground water, water body, and fish testing for PFAS compounds to ensure the safety of the public.

**SECTION 3.** Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

**DONE, ORDERED AND ADOPTED** in Regular Session, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018.



RITA PRITCHETT, CHAIR

(Approved by the Board on September 18 2018)

**ATTEST:**



SCOTT ELLIS, CLERK