



AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION

Your Comprehensive  
Public Works Resource

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December 10, 2021

The Honorable Jack Reed  
Chairman, Senate Armed Services Committee  
728 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable James Inhofe  
Ranking Member, Senate Armed Services Committee  
205 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Adam Smith  
Chairman, House Armed Services Committee  
2264 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Rogers  
Ranking Member, House Armed Services Committee  
2469 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: FY 2022 National Defense Authorization Act**

Dear Senator Reed, Senator Inhofe, Representative Smith, and Representative Rogers:

The American Public Works Association (APWA) is reaching out to you in your capacity as leaders of the congressional Armed Services Committees and negotiators of S. 1605, the Fiscal Year 2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Specifically, we are reaching out to express our appreciation and support for provisions included in this legislation aimed at combatting PFAS.

Protecting the nation's surface and groundwater water is essential to public health, safety and the quality of life our citizens enjoy. APWA's over 30,000 members play a critical role in providing clean and safe drinking water to their communities which are large and small, urban and rural. Chief among their responsibilities is the planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of the following: water supply systems, wastewater treatment systems, stormwater management programs, and drainage and flood control infrastructure, among numerous other public assets. Our members include public works professionals from cities, counties, and special districts, as well as their private sector partners. Our members are committed to protecting the public from the public health threat of emerging contaminants including PFAS.

APWA and its members are pleased to see Congress taking steps to combat PFAS through this year's NDAA. APWA's 117th Congress Water Resiliency Policy Priorities highlight the importance of protecting our water supply from emerging contaminants and ensuring regulations are firmly grounded in the latest science. Integrating these principles into efforts to regulate PFAS will ensure a successful partnership between the federal government and the state and local entities tasked with monitoring and treating these contaminants.

PRESIDENT  
Stan Brown, P.E., PWLF

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Scott D. Grayson, CAE



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## NDAAs PFAS Provisions

APWA is supportive of the following PFAS-related provisions of S. 1605, and we greatly appreciate their inclusion in the final bill. These provisions include:

- Sec. 341 – Directs the Department of Defense (DOD) to establish a PFAS Task Force & engage in PFAS testing
- Sec. 342 – Extends funding for study of PFAS in drinking water by CDC
- Sec. 344 – Requires DOD to issue guidance on preventing/mitigating aqueous film-forming foam spills
- Sec. 345 – Requires DOD to publicly disclose results of PFAS and testing conducted on military installations

Establishment of a DOD PFAS Task Force will be a step in the right direction for increasing coordination across the agency. Additionally, increased focus by DOD and other agencies on PFAS testing, studies, and mitigation will be vital to helping public works professionals protect communities in areas near DOD installations from the effects of this contaminant. Requirements for public disclosure by DOD will also serve this goal while simultaneously keeping the public informed on the widespread nature of the PFAS threat.

On behalf of public works professionals throughout the U.S., we thank you for your work on this critical legislation and for your efforts to help combat this dangerous contaminant. We are committed to working with your offices in our common goal of protecting people and property from the harmful effects of PFAS. If you have any questions, please contact APWA Government Affairs Manager Michael Altman at [maltman@apwa.net](mailto:maltman@apwa.net) or (202) 218-6727.

Sincerely,

Scott D. Grayson, CAE  
Chief Executive Officer

Stan Brown, PE  
APWA President

PRESIDENT  
Stan Brown, P.E., PWLF

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
Scott D. Grayson, CAE