

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl
3 substances; providing a short title; creating s.
4 376.911, F.S.; defining the terms "aqueous film-
5 forming foam" and "department"; prohibiting, beginning
6 on a specified date, certain use and the sale,
7 purchase, or distribution of aqueous film-forming
8 foam; requiring, beginning on a specified date,
9 certain entities to submit aqueous film-forming foam
10 inventories and disposal plans to the Department of
11 Environmental Protection; prohibiting, beginning on a
12 specified date, the possession and use of aqueous
13 film-forming foam; providing applicability; providing
14 duties of the department; authorizing the department
15 to administer certain grants or cost share programs;
16 providing penalties and injunctive relief; amending s.
17 403.086, F.S.; requiring certain public entities
18 disposing of domestic wastewater biosolids and treated
19 effluent to quarterly conduct specified samplings and
20 submit the results to the Department of Environmental
21 Protection; limiting the purpose of such samplings and
22 results until specified standards are established by
23 the United States Environmental Protection Agency and
24 adopted by the department; providing an effective
25 date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Joe Casello Act."

Section 2. Section 376.911, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

376.911 Aqueous film-forming foam.—

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Aqueous film-forming foam" means any firefighting foam containing intentionally added perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, including perfluorooctanoic acid and perfluorooctane sulfonate as defined by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

(b) "Department" means the Department of Environmental Protection.

(2) Effective July 1, 2026:

(a) Aqueous film-forming foam may not be used for any nonemergency instruction, training, or testing.

(b) All entities in possession of aqueous film-forming foam must report inventories to the department.

(3) Effective July 1, 2027:

(a) The sale, purchase, or distribution of aqueous film-forming foam within this state is prohibited.

(b) All entities with remaining inventories of aqueous film-forming foam must submit a disposal plan to the department.

51 (4) Effective July 1, 2029, possession and use of aqueous
52 film-forming foam is prohibited in this state.

53 (5) The prohibition under subsection (4) does not apply
54 to:

55 (a) Federal aviation facilities required to comply with 14
56 C.F.R. part 139.

57 (b) Military applications where alternatives do not exist.

58 (c) Emergency firefighting situations where alternative
59 firefighting foam is not available, including mutual aid where
60 state or local firefighting authorities may not have adequate
61 equipment to dispense alternatives.

62 (d) Specific aqueous film-forming foam retrofit projects
63 that have been submitted under an application with state or
64 local firefighting authorities.

65 (6) The department shall:

66 (a) Adopt rules for containment, collection, and disposal
67 of aqueous film-forming foam.

68 (b) Maintain a registry of firefighting foam alternatives
69 that do not contain perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl
70 substances.

71 (c) Provide technical assistance and grants for transition
72 to products that do not contain perfluoroalkyl and
73 polyfluoroalkyl substances.

74 (7) The department may administer grants or cost share
75 programs to assist local fire departments and airports in

76 transitioning to products that do not contain perfluoroalkyl and
 77 polyfluoroalkyl substances.

78 (8) A person who violates this act is subject to:

79 (a) Civil penalties not to exceed \$10,000 for each
 80 violation for each day the violation persists.

81 (b) Additional penalties for failure to report inventories
 82 or submit disposal plans.

83 (c) The department may seek injunctive relief to enforce
 84 compliance with this section.

85 **Section 3. Subsection (12) is added to section 403.086,**
 86 **Florida Statutes, to read:**

87 403.086 Sewage disposal facilities; advanced and secondary
 88 waste treatment.-

89 (12) (a) All public entities disposing of domestic
 90 wastewater biosolids and treated effluent that have a designed
 91 average daily flow of 25,000 or more gallons per day must
 92 quarterly conduct at least one biosolids and treated effluent
 93 sampling, as applicable, for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl
 94 substances, including perfluorooctanoic acid and perfluorooctane
 95 sulfonate, and submit the results to the department. The
 96 sampling must be conducted in accordance with department rules.

97 (b) Until water quality standards for perfluoroalkyl and
 98 polyfluoroalkyl substances are established by the United States
 99 Environmental Protection Agency and adopted by the department,
 100 the sampling and reporting conducted pursuant to paragraph (a)

101 | is for informational purposes only and may not be the basis for
102 | any department enforcement action or other cause of action.

103 | **Section 4.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.