Forever Chemicals Transparency Act/General Assembly of Georgia: Senate Bill 538



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Senate Bill 538 has been entered into the General Assembly of Georgia relating to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances ("PFAS").

The Bill is denominated the "Forever Chemicals Transparency Act."

By way of introduction, the General Assembly of Georgia finds in part that:

- PFAS are present in surface waters and public drinking water systems (including systems that use surface water and groundwater as source water)
- PFAS are difficult and expensive to remove from water
- Rate payers ultimately may bear the cost of removing PFAS from public drinking water wastewater systems.

The findings further provide in part:

… Therefore, the General Assembly finds that the public has a right to know whether private industrial users may be discharging PFAS into publicly owned treatment works.

Senate Bill 538 requires that each publicly owner treatment work determine whether any industrial dischargers to the publicly owned treatment works may be a source of PFAS. Any industrial user or significant industrial user discharging or proposing to discharge PFAS would have a duty to disclose the discharge or proposed discharge of PFAS. Further, the Bill provides that by a certain date publicly owned treatment works must request certain information from its industrial users and significant industrial users. In addition, by a certain date each industrial user and significant industrial user must provide information to publicly owned treatment works to which it discharges.

A copy of Senate Bill 538 can be found here.