

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.161

Reps. Haadsma, Garza, Coleman, Whitsett, Witwer, Sowerby, Shannon, Rabhi, Cynthia Johnson, Tate, Gay-Dagnogo, Ellison, Camilleri, Pohutsky, Warren, Sabo, Brixie, Kuppa, Hoadley, Love, Hope, Peterson, Elder, Cherry, Greig, Koleszar, VanSingel, Lasinski, Pagan, Brann, Clemente, Wittenberg and Manoogian offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to memorialize the United States Environmental
2 Protection Agency and Department of Defense to increase federal
3 action to address PFAS contamination.

4 Whereas, Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a
5 large group of man-made chemicals with numerous household and
6 industrial uses. PFAS have been shown to have a variety of health
7 effects, including increasing the risk of developing cancer,
8 thyroid disease, high blood pressure during pregnancy, and



1 cholesterol. Their ubiquity in the environment, especially
2 groundwater, and resistance to breakdown pose significant
3 challenges to clean-up efforts. New toxicological research raises
4 concerns about the adequacy of existing drinking water standards to
5 protect the public from PFAS; and

6 Whereas, Water testing mandated by the United States
7 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has revealed high levels of
8 PFAS contamination across the Great Lakes region, impacting more
9 than 16.5 million Americans. The United States Department of
10 Defense (DOD) has identified more than 400 current and former
11 military bases with known or suspected PFAS release. To date, the
12 state of Michigan has identified 63 sites contaminated with high
13 levels of PFAS, including 10 sites at or near military bases; and

14 Whereas, The state of Michigan has been a national leader in
15 addressing PFAS contamination but relies on the coordination,
16 leadership, and financial support of the federal government to
17 surmount this complex challenge; and

18 Whereas, It is essential that federal agencies establish and
19 implement PFAS response strategies in a timely manner to protect
20 the health of all Americans. The EPA has indicated that it is
21 moving forward with a PFAS Action Plan but uncertainty remains
22 regarding its implementation timeline. Despite military bases being
23 a substantial source of PFAS contamination, the DOD has failed to
24 take action to address the issue. The DOD has established a PFAS
25 Task Force, but its recommendations will only be the first step in
26 addressing PFAS contamination on military bases and their
27 surrounding communities; now, therefore, be it

28 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize
29 the United States Environmental Protection Agency and Department of



1 Defense to increase federal action to address PFAS contamination;
2 and be it further

3 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
4 Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency
5 and the United States Secretary of Defense.