



**For the Environment Committee
Testimony of Alicea Charamut, Executive Director
February 19, 2025**

Rivers Alliance was formed to fight for sound water policies at the state and federal levels, to provide education on water resources, and to advocate for any person or group striving to protect water. If you want clean, free-flowing and healthy rivers, and high-quality drinking water, Rivers Alliance is here to help.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on the following raised bill before you today.

SB 887 AA EXEMPTING CERTAIN COOKWARE FROM PFAS REQUIREMENTS – Opposes

PFAS pollution is a growing and costly problem. Billions of dollars are needed to remove these toxic chemicals from drinking water, individual households may spend hundreds of dollars on home filtration systems, and our state has already spent millions on PFAS. The financial burden of programs meant to address the serious public and environmental health issues caused by these toxic and persistent chemicals falls largely on taxpayers and ratepayers.

Last year, the General Assembly took a strong stand by committing to phase PFAS out of consumer products. This was a much needed complement to the state's significant investment in PFAS remediation and monitoring, ensuring a comprehensive approach to reducing exposure.

Given the widespread use of PFAS, **only a broad restriction on the entire suite of chemicals, including fluoropolymers such as PTFE, will effectively curb human and environmental exposure.** Exempting cookware weakens these efforts, allowing PFAS pollution to continue to enter our environment and increasing cleanup costs onto taxpayers and ratepayers. **To truly protect public health and our water resources, we must uphold the original intent of this legislation—without carve-outs that prolong contamination and financial burden.**