

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

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### MEMORANDUM

November 14, 2019

**To: Members of the Subcommittee on Environment**

**Fr: Committee Staff**

**Re: Subcommittee on Environment Hearing on “Toxic Forever Chemicals: A Call for Immediate Federal Action on PFAS.”**

On **Tuesday, November 19, 2019, at 2:00 p.m., in Room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building**, the Subcommittee will hold its fourth hearing on the widespread contamination of drinking water, ground water, air and food supplies with dangerous chemicals entitled per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

#### **I. HEARING PURPOSE**

This hearing will lay out the case for immediate and robust federal regulation of PFAS. The Environmental Working Group has estimated that more than 110 million Americans may be exposed to these toxic “forever chemicals” in their drinking water; PFAS are also found in common household items, such as non-stick cookware, and in the firefighting foam used in military training exercises.

PFAS have been linked to adverse health outcomes such as birth defects and certain types of cancer, and yet these toxic chemicals remain unregulated by the federal government.

The Subcommittee will examine the enormity of the contamination crisis, particularly around industrial manufacturing sites and military installations, as well as the imperative that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) set a maximum contaminant level for PFAS under the Safe Drinking Water Act and take action to clean up contaminated sites.

**II. WITNESSES**

**Mark Ruffalo**

Actor, Producer and Activist

**Scott Faber**

Senior Vice President for Government Affairs  
Environmental Working Group

**Mark Favors**

U.S. Army Veteran  
Member, Fountain Valley Clean Water Coalition

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