

# **Contaminated Wells** **Relocation Act**

*This bill would ensure that the residents of Chincoteague, Virginia have access to safe drinking water free of PFAS contamination.*

## **Key Legislative Provisions**

- Authorizes NASA to reimburse the town of Chincoteague for the costs associated with the removal of contaminated wells, as well as the relocation of these wells to a safe location free from groundwater contamination
- Requires that the NASA Administrator submit to Congress a report on the plan for said removal and relocation within 18 months

## **Background**

- From the late 1970s to 1988, the Navy conducted fire training activities on Navy-owned land on the north-central portion of Wallops Island, using a common firefighting foam that contained PFAS compounds.
- The firefighting foam was also used to extinguish fires from an aircraft crash that occurred at Wallops in 1998.
- NASA has since acquired this land from the Navy, on which are located four drinking water wells owned and operated by the town of Chincoteague, VA.
- These wells have since become contaminated due to the use of PFAS firefighting foam, and NASA has been providing a temporary water supply in the meantime so residents have access to clean drinking water.
- As a permanent solution, NASA has agreed to reimburse Chincoteague for the relocation of the wells offsite of Wallops, an action that requires specific legislative authority.
- This language was included in the 2024 House-passed NASA Reauthorization Act, which passed the House 366-21.



Congresswoman  
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