

## **SUPPORT SB293**

Richmond Internatl. Airport; discontinuing use of PFAS chemicals in firefighting materials, report

Patron: Sen. Aird

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PFAS are a group of man-made chemicals often found in specialized firefighting foams used for jet fuel fires. They are known as "forever chemicals" because they don't break down easily in the environment or the human body. Once sprayed onto a runway, they stay in the soil or wash into nearby waterways and ground water. These chemicals build up in the bodies of humans and wildlife over time, meaning even small, repeated exposures can lead to high concentrations in blood and organs.

Eliminating PFAS chemicals in firefighting foams will reduce contaminated PFAS run-off into local waterways and ground water systems.

### **Background**

SB 293 Directs the Capital Region Airport Commission to develop a plan for discontinuing by January 1, 2028 the use of PFAS chemicals in firefighting materials at Richmond International Airport and to complete such plan and provide a report to the Virginia Aviation Board no later than November 15, 2026.



Corrina Beall  
Legislative & Political Director, Virginia Chapter  
100 West Franklin Street, Mezzanine  
Richmond, Virginia 23220  
corrina.beall@sierraclub.org  
804.687.8108 (m)

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