

**TODD STEPHENS, MEMBER  
151<sup>ST</sup> LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT**

PO BOX 202151  
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-2151  
PHONE: (717) 260-6163  
FAX: (717) 782-2898

515 STUMP ROAD  
NORTH WALES, PA 19454  
PHONE: (215) 368-5165  
FAX: (215) 368-5169



**House of Representatives**  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

**COMMITTEES**  
CHILDREN AND YOUTH  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
JUDICIARY  
TRANSPORTATION

**COMMISSIONS**  
PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON SENTENCING

E-mail: [tstephen@pahousegop.com](mailto:tstephen@pahousegop.com)  
[www.RepToddStephens.com](http://www.RepToddStephens.com)

January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

The Honorable Tom Wolf  
Office of the Governor  
225 Main Capitol Building  
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Governor Wolf:

We are writing today to respectfully suggest you include \$1,619,164 in the 2021-2022 budget for Temple University to research any links between PFAS contamination and cancer. For years, the community surrounding the former Willow Grove Naval Air Station in Horsham, Montgomery County and the former Naval Air Development Center in Warminster, Bucks County was drinking water contaminated with PFAS – chemicals contained in firefighting foam the military used. These chemicals have been linked to many illnesses, including cancer. Unsurprisingly, a preliminary cancer review study conducted by the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) found statistically significant increases in certain cancers in these communities. We feel this preliminary cancer review study warrants further investigations.

After years of bipartisan efforts in Washington, D.C., the federal government, through the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) / ATSDR has finally funded a nationwide PFAS health study which includes subjects from these communities in Pennsylvania to help us better understand what, if any, health ramifications there are for our long-term exposure to these chemicals in our drinking water. The Pennsylvania Department of Health is conducting the study; however, the federal government has excluded *cancer* from this multi-state health study.

Fortunately, Dr. Resa M. Jones, from Temple University School of Public Health, in collaboration with the PA DOH, has agreed to complete the missing cancer component of the health study. The attached letter from her, budget and brief summary detail the cost of \$1,619,164 for her to complete her work.

We've also attached a letter from the Buxmont Coalition for Safer Water, a community group involved in the health study and other advocacy on this issue, which details the

requested funds. We have also attached letters of support for the project from our State Epidemiologist, Dr. Sharon Watkins, and Susan Wood, who is contracted by the PA DOH as the Community Engagement and Outreach Coordinator for the multistate health study.

In closing, it is critically important for the residents of our communities and others across the Commonwealth who may be exposed to PFAS to fully understand the health effects that result from long-term exposure to PFAS in drinking water and we respectfully suggest you include funding for this research in the 2021-2022 budget.

Sincerely Yours,



Todd Stephens  
State Representative  
151<sup>st</sup> Legislative District



Meghan Schroeder  
State Representative  
29<sup>th</sup> Legislative District



Todd Polinchock  
State Representative  
144<sup>th</sup> Legislative District

Cc: The Honorable Jen Swails, Secretary of the Budget  
The Honorable Stan Saylor, Chairman, House Appropriations Committee  
The Honorable Bryan Cutler, Speaker of the House  
The Honorable Kerry Benninghoff, Majority Leader  
Michael Brunelle, Chief of Staff to Governor Wolf