



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR FORCE CIVIL ENGINEER CENTER
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO LACKLAND TEXAS

February 19, 2026

Minnesota House of Representatives
Environment and Natural Resource Finance and Policy Committee
658 Cedar St.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

SUBJECT: Department of Air Force Comments on Amara's Law and Proposed Regulatory Changes Related to Minnesota's PFAS Product Ban

Dear Committee Co-Chair Fischer, Co-Chair Heintzeman and members of the Minnesota Environment and Natural Resource Finance and Policy Committee,

The Department of the Air Force takes seriously its dual responsibility of carrying out its military mission while protecting human health and the environment. I act as the Air Force Regional Environmental Coordinator for Federal Region 5, which consists of Minnesota and 5 other states in the Great Lakes Region. In my position, I coordinate legislative and regulatory concerns within these states for the Air Force.

The Air Force appreciates the opportunity to provide the following input to the committee. Many sectors of the US national economy, including information technology, manufacturing, renewable energy, aerospace, and general transportation, lack technically suitable alternatives to the use of PFAS materials in challenging, high-performance, and safety-related applications. The Air Force and other service branches either rely on products and services delivered by these sectors of the economy or use PFAS in applications that mirror those in civilian sector. In addition, the Air Force and military service branches have military specific uses of PFAS materials for which there are no alternatives. There are many Aerospace and Defense product lines that do not currently have PFAS-free alternatives that meet military specifications, including but not limited to sensors, gauges, heat transfer and environmental control systems, engine components, and propulsion systems.

Three of the Department's reports and briefings to the US Congress provide considerable additional detail on Aerospace and Defense uses of PFAS and are available at <https://www.denix.osd.mil/cmrmpr/reports-and-briefings/> :

- *Report on Critical Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Uses (2023)*
- *Update on Critical Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Uses (2025)*
- *Briefing on Fluorinated Fire Suppression Products (2025)*

The Air Force would like to request consideration of exemptions for Aerospace and Defense product lines that have no PFAS-free alternatives. The Air Force looks forward to working with you to ensure that the Currently Unavoidable Use rulemaking accounts for critical Aerospace and Defense uses.

Thank you for consideration of these comments. If you have any questions or would like to discuss these comments in more detail, Ms. Kelsey Hendrixson can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Ackerman" with a horizontal line extending to the right.

MICHAEL ACKERMAN
DAF Regional Environmental Coordinator
Federal Region 5

cc:

Ms. Kelsey Hendrixson, Office of the Assistant Secretary of War (Energy, Installations & Environment)