

RON KIND
THIRD DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

SENIOR WHIP

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

WASHINGTON D.C.OFFICE
1502 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON DC 20515
(202) 225-5506 FAX:(202) 225-5739

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

LA CROSSE OFFICE
205 5TH AVENUE SOUTH, SUITE 400
LA CROSSE, WI 54601
(608) 782-2558 FAX: (608) 782-4588
TTY: (608) 782-1173

EAU CLAIRE OFFICE
131 SOUTH BARSTOW STREET, SUITE 305
EAU CLAIRE, WI 54701
(715) 831-9214 FAX: (715) 831-9272

WEBSITE: KIND.HOUSE.GOV

April 19, 2021

The Honorable Janet Yellen
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave N.W.
Washington, DC 20220

Mr. Jacob Leibenluft
Chief Recovery Officer
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave N.W.
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Yellen and Mr. Leibenluft,

I write today to request that the U.S. Treasury allow state and local governments to use funding allocated from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (Recovery Fund), established by American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (American Rescue Plan), to address per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination in their communities.

My constituents in the Town of Campbell, Wisconsin are currently under an interim drinking water advisory due to PFAS contamination in municipal and private wells. Allowing state and local governments to use the Recovery Fund to address drinking water challenges due to PFAS contamination and would have an immediate effect for my constituents, others in Wisconsin, and communities living with PFAS contamination across the country.

Municipal budgets have already been devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic and these communities need additional resources. The additional funding provided by the American Rescue Plan is a lifeline for communities across the country to expand testing sites to help determine the scope of PFAS contamination, immediately provide safe drinking water for residents, and support communities who are looking to expand their municipal water systems to private well owners.

I am requesting that the following categories are included under the allowable use of funds under the Recovery Fund:

PFAS Standard Setting

1. Expand PFAS site identification using GIS mapping
2. Facilitate timely collection of environmental PFAS data
3. Standardize PFAS sampling methods and support statewide implementation
4. Test public water systems for PFAS

Research and Development for PFAS substances

1. Collaborate on and implement research related to the impacts of PFAS on humans and our environment
2. Monitor background levels of PFAS in the environment
3. Collect data on drinking water treatment and costs

Future Investments in PFAS

1. Provide support to Wisconsin veterans to address PFAS-related health risks
2. Launch a collection and disposal program for PFAS-containing firefighting foam
3. Provide financial tools for local governments

Thank you and I look forward to working with you on this critical matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Kind". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ron Kind
Member of Congress