

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

H.B. 521  
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH30251-MHa-66A

Short Title: 2021 Safe Drinking Water Act. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Clemmons.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO PROTECT NORTH CAROLINA CITIZENS FROM HARMFUL TOXINS IN  
3 DRINKING WATER BY REQUIRING THE COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC HEALTH TO  
4 ESTABLISH MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVELS FOR CHEMICALS THAT ARE  
5 PROBABLE OR KNOWN CARCINOGENS OR ARE OTHERWISE TOXIC.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.(a)** The Commission for Public Health shall, no later than October 15,  
8 2021:

- 9 (1) Commence rulemaking to establish maximum contaminant levels (MCLs), as  
10 that term is defined under G.S. 130A-313, for probable or known carcinogens  
11 and other toxic chemicals that are likely to pose a substantial hazard to public  
12 health. At a minimum, the Commission shall establish MCLs for all of the  
13 following contaminants:  
14 a. Per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).  
15 b. Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA).  
16 c. Perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS).  
17 d. Hexavalent chromium (chromium-6).  
18 e. 1,4-Dioxane.  
19 (2) Consider establishment of MCLs for any other contaminants for which at least  
20 two other states have set MCLs or issued guidance.

21 **SECTION 1.(b)** In the course of establishing MCLs as required by subsection (a) of  
22 this section, the Commission shall:

- 23 (1) Review MCLs adopted by other states, the studies and scientific evidence  
24 reviewed by those states, material in the Agency for Toxic Substances and  
25 Disease Registry, and the latest peer-reviewed science and independent or  
26 government agency studies on appropriate MCLs for such contaminants.  
27 (2) Adopt MCLs protective of public health, including vulnerable subpopulations  
28 such as pregnant and nursing mothers, infants, and children, which state  
29 MCLs shall not exceed any MCL or health advisory established by the United  
30 States Environmental Protection Agency.

31 **SECTION 2.** The Commission for Public Health shall annually review the latest  
32 peer-reviewed science and independent or government agency studies and undertake additional  
33 rulemaking as necessary to establish or revise MCLs for contaminants that are likely to pose a  
34 substantial threat to public health.

35 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.



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