



Stephen D. Alves
Government Relations

March 31, 2024

The Honorable David A. Bennett
Chairperson House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
Rhode Island State House
82 Smith Street
Providence Rhode Island 02903

RE: H-7356 Relating to Health and Safety – Comprehensive PFAS Ban Act of 2024

Dear Chair Bennett,

I am writing to you on behalf of our client, regarding H-7356, sponsored by Representative Cortvriend.

Our client has a location in the Quonset Industrial Park in North Kingstown, Rhode Island. They have operated in Rhode Island for generations. Originally located in East Providence, they moved their operations to Quonset more than twenty years ago. They gainfully employ 160 people at their Quonset Headquarters, that are highly technical with industry experience and unique skill sets. The required expertise drives highly competitive salaries in positions such as process engineers, quality control chemists, PhD level research chemists, and highly technically trained certified manufacturing technicians.

Our client's products are essential for their customers to manufacture computer chips. Some of the essential products contain PFAS. There are currently no available substitutions for the PFAS components within these product formulations. The semiconductor industry utilizes fluorinated chemistries in many applications due to the unique performance aspects of these molecules.

If a PFAS ban is instituted in Rhode Island, our client will not be able to sell these essential products to chip manufacturing customers. That would force chip manufacturers to shut down their manufacturing process and stop chip production. Stopping chip production would affect the chip supply, which is critical to our nation's security, and damage the chip making capacity in the United States – which is a key focus area of our government policy as represented by the *Chips and Science Act*.

Our client recognizes the need to replace these PFAS containing chemicals in product formulations. This will take at least 10-25 years, as noted by the Semiconductor Industry Association, as there are many products to reformulate and many chip manufacturers will need to requalify each product.

Very Truly Yours,

Stephen D. Alves

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E-mail: stephenalves12@yahoo.com ▪ Cell: (401) 595-5555 ▪ Fax: (401) 615-3497
34 Sweet Briar Lane, West Warwick RI 02863