

Oklahoma Intercollegiate Legislature
1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2025)

Senate Bill No. ORU-001

Amele (ORU)

AS INTRODUCED

An act relating to public health; providing short title; providing for definitions; providing for codification; providing for penalties; providing an effective date; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Section 1. This act shall be known as the "Oklahoma Clean Water & PFAS Protection Act" of 2025.

Section 2. DEFINITIONS The following terms are to be defined as follows for this Act.

1. "PFAS" means per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, a class of human-made chemicals resistant to degradation that may contaminate water, soil, and air.
2. "Public water system" means any municipal, rural, or tribal water utility providing drinking water to the public.
3. "Department" refers to the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).
4. "Remediation Fund" means the Oklahoma Clean Water Remediation Fund established by this Act to support cleanup and testing efforts.
5. "Discharge" means any direct or indirect release of PFAS into the air, soil, or waters of the state.

Section 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes to read as follows:

1. The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality shall require all public water systems to conduct annual testing for PFAS contamination beginning January 1, 2026.

2. All test results shall be submitted to the Department and published in an online PFAS Transparency Database, accessible to the public and updated quarterly.
3. Any water system found to exceed the maximum contaminant level established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) shall:
 - a. Notify customers within thirty (30) days,
 - b. Develop and submit a remediation plan to the Department within ninety (90) days, and
 - c. Implement treatment or filtration as directed by the Department.
 - d. The Department shall coordinate with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB) to provide technical assistance to affected systems, prioritizing small or rural communities.
4. Any industrial facility that manufactures, uses, or disposes of PFAS must file an annual disclosure report with the Department detailing:
 - a. The type and quantity of PFAS used or produced,
 - b. Storage and disposal methods, and
 - c. Any known or potential discharges.
5. The Department may conduct inspections, sampling, and audits to verify compliance.
6. Any facility found to have unlawfully discharged PFAS shall be required to:
 - a. Immediately cease the discharge,
 - b. Undertake cleanup as ordered by the Department, and
 - c. Reimburse the Remediation Fund for associated costs.
7. There is hereby created in the State Treasury a revolving fund to be known as the Oklahoma Clean Water Remediation Fund, to be administered by the Department of Environmental Quality.
8. The fund shall consist of state appropriations, federal water infrastructure or environmental grants, recovered penalties and reimbursement from responsible parties, and voluntary contributions or donations.
9. Expenditures from the fund shall be used exclusively for:
 - a. PFAS testing, monitoring, and remediation projects,
 - b. Grants to rural and tribal water systems for filtration technology,
 - c. Public education campaigns on safe water practices, and
 - d. Administrative costs associated with implementing this Act.
10. The Department, in cooperation with the Oklahoma Water Resources Board, shall conduct statewide public awareness campaigns to educate residents on:
 - a. PFAS health risks,
 - b. Water safety measures, and
 - c. How to access local water quality data.

11. The Department shall publish an annual report to the Oklahoma Legislature summarizing:
 - a. PFAS testing results statewide,
 - b. Remediation efforts underway,
 - c. Total expenditures and fund balance, and
 - d. Enforcement actions taken during the prior fiscal year.

Section 4. PENALTIES

1. Failure of a public water system to perform required testing or submit accurate reports shall result in administrative fines not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per day of violation.
2. Intentional falsification or concealment of test results shall constitute a felony offense punishable by up to three (3) years imprisonment and fines up to fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000).
3. Civil penalties for violations shall not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per day of noncompliance.

Section 5. This act shall become effective ninety (90) days after passage and approval.

Section 6. EMERGENCY CLAUSE

It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

AMENDMENTS

- 1. Amending Page 2, Section 3, Sub-section 9, Sub-Sub-section b, Line 3. Strike “and tribal” after “rural”. Submitted by Massengale, Seconded by Jones. FAILED IN SENATE**