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Regarding: PFAS chemical use across Australia.

Australian Advocacy Group, operating as a private commercial business, a trading name of HOLD Technologies Pty Ltd (ABN: 96 109 935 891), is a unique social network of individuals, commercial business, charities and other entities, of similar Australian beliefs and values, providing a platform and dynamics for social advocacy.

Our members have concerns about the ability to maintain a PFAS free lifestyle, activity or business in Australia. These concerns are related to medical conditions associated with PFAS exposure, such as skin irritations, itchiness, rashes, respiratory difficulties and mental health conditions. Members exposed to PFAS chemicals, either on private property, in eco-sensitive environments, or public areas, report experiencing stress, anxiety and depression from worrying about the exposure causing cancers, or other negative medical conditions. In additional, concern about the long term effects of PFAS chemicals on soil, waterways, ecosystems and environment also contributes to a decline in members mental and overall health.

These adverse effects have been reported to contribute to a decline in productivity, both of business and individual performance, loss of income and community economic activity, and a burden on government and not-for-profit support initiatives. In general, the use of PFAS chemicals has been attributed to effect communities' overall ability to prosper.

Australian Advocacy Group urges the Australian Government to:

1. acknowledge the community expectations are that PFAS chemicals are no longer accepted, and their use should be limited or completely removed.
2. empower Australians to choose PFAS free lifestyles, activities or business through legislation.
3. mandate the offering of biosecurity operations or government initiatives (state and federal), where eradication, suppression and management programs are initiated, to include non-chemical solutions to accommodate these lifestyle, activity and business choices.

Kind Regards



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