

## West Virginia Clean Drinking Water Act

- The West Virginia Clean Drinking Water Act will be introduced early in the 2020 legislative session.
- Its goal is to reduce harmful toxins in drinking water to protect the health of West Virginians and strengthen the state's economy.
- It will help avoid future costly lawsuits.
- It takes a systematic, science-based approach.
- First, it will reduce the amount of toxic chemicals that reach rivers, streams, and groundwater used as drinking water sources.
- Second, it will require the development of science-based clean drinking water standards that public water systems will need to meet to keep their customers safe.
- The legislation will address a variety of toxic chemicals, including per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs), which are man-made chemicals that includes PFOA, PFOS, GenX, and many other chemicals. PFAS have been manufactured and used in a variety of industries since the 1940s. These chemicals are very persistent in the environment and in the human body, meaning they do not break down and can accumulate over time.