

# JUSTICE FOR JANA ELEMENTARY ACT OF 2023



## Justice for Jana Elementary Act Congresswoman Cori Bush (MO-01)

The bicameral *Justice for Jana Elementary Act of 2023* is bipartisan legislation requiring the cleanup of Jana Elementary School and directing the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to test all Hazelwood School District properties for radioactive waste.

In March 2023, the school district announced that the school would be shut down permanently, the result of testing by a private company that showed high levels of radioactivity in the school and around the playground.

Jana Elementary School opened its doors in 1970 and is located in North St. Louis County near Coldwater Creek. This bed of water was contaminated with radioactive waste generated from the production of atomic weapons for the Manhattan Project in the 1940s and 50s. Decades later, radioactive contamination was found in the school library, kitchen, classrooms, fields and playgrounds.

In response to these troubling findings, Congresswoman Cori Bush (MO-01) and Senator Josh Hawley (R-MO) introduced the bipartisan, bicameral *Justice for Jana Elementary Act*, which would:

- Direct the USACE to establish new remediation goals to clean up Jana Elementary
- Direct the USACE to test all Hazelwood School District schools for radioactive contaminants
- Create a fund to permit localities with schools impacted by Manhattan Project-era atomic programs to request financial assistance for radioactive testing or construction of new school facilities; and
- Direct the DOE to review all testing performed at Jana Elementary and determine if the testing was reliable.