

H.B. 6329 An Act Concerning Hydraulic Fracturing Waste In Connecticut

To Senator Kennedy, Senator Miner, Rep. Demicco and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments about HB 6329. I support this bill and urge a strengthening of the language; we must ban hydraulic fracturing waste for gas and also for all oil and gas drilling and extractions wastes. A state ban on all fracking waste in Connecticut will protect property values, public health and costs for Connecticut taxpayers.

Fracking is a process used to extract natural gas and oil. Millions of gallons of a toxic chemical solution are injected underground at high pressure to crack dense rock and release oil and gas. Fracking fluids and contaminated solids come to the surface and need to be disposed of as waste. There are no good options for disposing of this toxic and possibly radioactive waste or using its by-products in Connecticut. The dangers associated pose an unacceptable risk to health and safety, municipal and private property values, and natural resources.

While there is currently a temporary moratorium for disposing of fracking waste in Connecticut, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is currently considering regulations to allow this waste to be brought into Connecticut, and may submit these regulations for review as early as this summer, July 1, 2017. Regulations cannot prevent accidents, spills and leaks from contaminating soil, surface and ground waters; aquifers and drinking water have been contaminated in other states.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony.

Respectfully,

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