



**Connecticut Conference
United Church of Christ**

125 Sherman Street
Hartford, CT 06105-2281

**Testimony in Support of H.B. 6329: An Act Concerning Hydraulic Fracking Waste in Connecticut
Submitted by, Michele Mudrick, Legislative Advocate
Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ
March 13, 2017**

Senator Kennedy , Senator Miner, Representative Demicco, and distinguished members of Environment Committee,

I am Michele Mudrick, Legislative Advocate for the Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ and I am writing today in support of House Bill 6329: An Act Concerning Hydraulic Fracking Waste in Connecticut to permanently prohibit the storage, disposal, handling and use of hydraulic fracturing waste in Connecticut.

I am writing on behalf of the 237 congregations and more than 67,500 people in our state's churches. In fact, the United Church of Christ (UCC) is the largest Protestant denomination in Connecticut. Nationally, the UCC has more than 5,700 congregations with nearly 1 million members. In 2016, the assembled delegates and ministers of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ met and voted on Resolutions which call upon the Connecticut Conference to support the Implementation of Legislation to Help Achieve State Mandated Reductions in Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Support the Increase in Renewable Energy Resources in Connecticut. Part of this Resolution calls for responsible disposal of waste products which would provide for a sustainable future that protects the climate, the natural environment, and the livelihoods of the working people in Connecticut.

Fracking (short for hydraulic fracking) is a method of drilling for oil and gas that poses serious environmental and public health risks. Connecticut could be negatively impacted by the disposal of waste products from fracking. While there are no industrial fracking operations currently in Connecticut, volumes of toxic, radioactive, and caustic liquid waste-by-products pose storage, treatment and disposal problems.¹

If toxic, radioactive fracking waste is allowed to be treated, discharged, processed, sold or stored in our state, eventually it will contaminate our public water supply, our air and our land. If it is spread in agricultural areas it will contaminate our food supply.² All of God's children deserve opportunities to live and thrive in their communities and having fracking waste in a community is not a way for it to thrive. Thank you for your work and the opportunity to supply written testimony in support of H. B. 6329.

Blessings,
Michele Mudrick
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¹ Citizens Campaign and Waste Free CT

² Grassroots Environmental Education



God is still speaking,

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