



State of Connecticut
HOUSE REPUBLICAN OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

Testimony in support of
HB 6329
AN ACT CONCERNING HYDRAULIC FRACTURING WASTE IN CONNECTICUT
Environment Committee
March 13, 2017

Co-Chairs Kennedy, Miner, and Demicco, Ranking Member Harding, and distinguished members of the Environment Committee:

We want to thank you for raising HB 6329: AN ACT CONCERNING HYDRAULIC FRACTURING WASTE IN CONNECTICUT, and offer our full support.

Hydraulic fracturing is a process used to extract natural gas by injecting fluids consisting of water, sand, and chemicals at high pressure “fracturing” shale formations to allow gas to flow into collection wells on the surface. This process produces a high volume of wastewater that must be treated, recycled or disposed. In many states, this waste product has been used as a deicing agent on local roads and bridges. In other instances, the waste materials have been used as land fill. This is of particular concern as the waste substance contains high concentrations of chemical pollutants and radioactive particles toxic to humans, animals, groundwater supplies and the environment.

New York, Massachusetts and Vermont are among several states that have banned hydraulic fracturing operations. Connecticut placed a temporary moratorium on the use, storage, and disposal of fracking waste in 2014. Recently 10 Connecticut towns have enacted local ordinances prohibiting the sale, storage, transport and use of fracking waste within their borders.

The Town of Windsor enacted such an ordinance in January of 2017, and by unanimous resolution of its Town Council, petitioned its state legislative delegation to support a permanent ban of fracking waste materials in the State of Connecticut. HB 6329 was initially co-introduced by Representatives Zawistowski (R-61st), Storms (R-60th), and Baram (D-15th) in response.

Given the serious and substantial environmental risks and hazards to public safety associated with fracturing waste, we ask the committee to support HB 6329. Thank you for your consideration.

Scott A. Storms
State Representative, 60th District

Tami Zawistowski
State Representative, 61st District