



State of Connecticut

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Environment Committee
February 23, 2018

Testimony in Support of S.B. 103 An Act Concerning Hydraulic Fracturing Waste in Connecticut

Co-Chairs Kennedy, Miner, and Demicco; Vice Chairs Flexer, Somers, and Gresko, and distinguished members of the Environment Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony in support of **SB 103, An Act Concerning Hydraulic Fracturing Waste in Connecticut.**

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 permit gas flow into collection wells on the surface. This process produces a high volume of wastewater that must be treated, recycled or disposed of. In numerous states this waste water has been used as a deicing agent on roads and bridges. Other instances this waste product has been used as land fill. This is of particular concern because this waste product contains a large amount of chemical pollutants and radioactive particles toxic to humans, animals, groundwater supplies and the environment as a whole.

New York, Massachusetts, and Vermont are just a few among many states that have banned this practice state wide. Connecticut placed a temporary moratorium on the use, storage, and disposal of fracking waste in 2014.

There are many towns in Connecticut that are taking the initiative to place ordinances banning fracturing operations. At the state level, I introduced a bill to ban this process state wide. It really is a state wide issue.

Given the serious and substantial environmental risks and hazards to public safety related to fracturing waste, I urge the Environment committee to support SB 103. Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

Sincerely,

Stephen Harding Jr.
State Representative, 107th District