



State of Connecticut
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE CAPITOL
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1591

REPRESENTATIVE JONATHAN STEINBERG
136TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ROOM 3004
HARTFORD, CT 06106-1591

CAPITOL: 860-240-8585
TOLL FREE: 800-842-8267
CELL: 203-722-7477

E-MAIL: Jonathan.Steinberg@cga.ct.gov

CHAIR
Public Health Committee

MEMBER
Energy & Technology Committee
Transportation Committee
Insurance Committee

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 103 AND SB 104

March 23, 2018

Senator Kennedy, Senator Miner, Representative Demicco, Representative Harding and members of the Environment Committee:

SB 103

As the demand for natural gas increases, there is tremendous temptation to secure natural gas at any cost. Only the low cost of natural gas has slowed expansion of new drilling wells, but we can expect drilling to revive as prices inevitably rise.

That's all the more reason for Connecticut to prohibit anyone from accepting, receiving, collecting, storing, treating, transferring or disposing of fracking waste. Yes, we've had a moratorium in place for several years, but now's the time to establish a total ban, as so many municipalities in our area are now considering. The most likely waste to come to Connecticut would be from the Marcellus Shale deposits in New York and Pennsylvania. Fracking waste is toxic enough without the added dangers of NORM -- normally-occurring radioactive material -- found in Marcellus natural gas deposits.

There simply is no good way to process or store this waste. So, let's keep it out of our state!

SB 104

The excessive use of pesticides has long been known to be associated with cancers as well as respiratory and endocrine complications. Most pesticides are actually organocides -- poisons capable of killing any living thing if delivered in sufficient quantity over time.

We should be very careful about pesticide application, particularly given the risks to children and pets. The increased use of pesticide misters is a very dangerous development, given the prospect of windborne spreading of the product to places where it might not be intended or appropriate -- like a neighbor's lawn. Such products should be subject to appropriate controls and I urge the Committee to draft language which will protect all those susceptible to excessive pesticide use.

Thank you for your consideration.