



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF NEW JERSEY

Testimony in Opposition of S2534 Senate Environment and Energy September 21, 2015

The League of Women Voters of New Jersey (LWVNJ) opposes S2534, a bill that would under-regulate dangerous and toxic hydraulic fracturing waste. The League of Women Voters is very concerned about protecting New Jersey's waterways and ensuring the health and safety of its residents and we believe NJ should ban any waste produced as a result of hydraulic fracturing for natural gas from being transported into, discharged, disposed of, processed, or stored in New Jersey.

S2534 acknowledges the dangers of this waste within the bill stating, "The Legislature further finds and declares that the treatment of wastewater, wastewater solids, sludge, drill cuttings or other byproducts from the hydraulic fracturing process poses financial, operational, health, and environmental risks to the citizens of the State." In fact, a lot of this bill does a great job of outlining the dangers of fracking waste to our water supply, and the health of our citizens. However, the regulations presented in the bill do not address those dangers. Naming chemicals is not the same as identifying the impact these chemicals will have on us; permitting plants is not the same as ensuring plants are able to safely process this waste. New Jersey citizens do not want to be guinea pigs, subjected to so many dangerous unknowns under the guise of rubber stamped regulations.

The Legislature clearly knows the dangers here. The LWVNJ is not an environmental organization; we are a public interest organization. These regulations do not serve the public good. Instead, they regulate the process just enough to open our state up to these toxins, without offering any regulations that truly protect our water and residents. We ask that you vote no on S2534 and stay committed to banning fracking waste from our state.

Presented by:
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