

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 296 Session of
2011

INTRODUCED BY MUNDY, BRENNAN, DePASQUALE, GEORGE, GERBER,
HORNAMAN, MATZIE, MULLERY, MURPHY, PAYTON, SAMUELSON AND
SANTARSIERO, MAY 23, 2011

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY, MAY
23, 2011

A RESOLUTION

1 Memorializing the Congress of the United States to pass the
2 Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals Act,
3 thereby repealing the provision in the Federal Safe Drinking
4 Water Act that exempts oil and gas industries from
5 restrictions on hydraulic fracturing operations located near
6 drinking water sources, as well as requiring oil and gas
7 industries to disclose all hydraulic fracturing chemicals and
8 chemical constituents.

9 WHEREAS, Wise stewardship of our natural resources involves
10 the protection of water supplies for generations to come; and

11 WHEREAS, Protection of the public water supplies is best
12 accomplished by measures that prevent contamination, rather than
13 remediating and treating contaminated water supplies after the
14 fact; and

15 WHEREAS, In recent years, Pennsylvania's burgeoning natural
16 gas industry has expanded its drilling operations to tap into
17 the Marcellus Shale deposit located deep beneath the surface of
18 the land; and

19 WHEREAS, The oil and gas production process involves the use
20 of industrial fluids and chemicals during drilling and hydraulic

1 fracturing; and

2 WHEREAS, Hydraulic fracturing of underground formations is
3 accomplished by injecting a complex mix of fluids and chemicals,
4 along with sand and water, under very high pressure to create
5 fractures in those formations to access pockets of oil or
6 natural gas; and

7 WHEREAS, The companies that use hydraulic fracturing are not
8 required to reveal the constituents of the chemicals they are
9 injecting during hydraulic fracturing, since they are considered
10 secret proprietary rights of the company; and

11 WHEREAS, There is concern that some of the chemical
12 constituents injected during hydraulic fracturing may have
13 potential adverse health effects; and

14 WHEREAS, In 2005, regulation of hydraulic fracturing was
15 exempted from Federal regulations, thereby allowing the use of
16 these substances without the Federal oversight of scientific
17 standards that would be otherwise applicable; therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the
19 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania call upon the Congress of the
20 United States to pass the Fracturing Responsibility and
21 Awareness of Chemicals Act, thereby repealing the provision in
22 the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act that exempts oil and gas
23 industries from restrictions on hydraulic fracturing operations
24 located near drinking water sources, as well as requiring oil
25 and gas industries to disclose all hydraulic fracturing
26 chemicals and chemical constituents; and be it further

27 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to
28 the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each
29 member of Congress from Pennsylvania.