



**Connecticut Conference
United Church of Christ**

125 Sherman Street
Hartford, CT 06105-2281

**Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 753: An Act Concerning the State-Wide Ban on Fracking
Waste
Submitted by, Michele Mudrick, Legislative Advocate
Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ
February 4, 2019**

Dear Senator Cohen, Representative Demicco and members of the Environment Committee,

I am Michele Mudrick, Legislative Advocate for the Connecticut Conference, United Church of Christ and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 753: An Act Concerning the State-Wide Ban on Fracking Waste to expand the state-wide fracking ban to apply to all gas and oil extraction activities and to assure that such a ban is permanent.

I am writing on behalf of the 233 congregations and more than 67,000 people in our state's churches. In fact, the United Church of Christ (UCC) is the largest Protestant denomination in Connecticut. Nationally, the UCC has more than 5,700 congregations with nearly 1 million members. In 2016, the assembled delegates and ministers of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ met and voted on Resolutions which call upon the Connecticut Conference to support the Implementation of Legislation to Help Achieve State Mandated Reductions in Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Support the Increase in Renewable Energy Resources in Connecticut. Part of this Resolution calls for responsible disposal of waste products which would provide for a sustainable future that protects the climate, the natural environment, and the livelihoods of the working people in Connecticut.

Fracking (short for hydraulic fracking) is a method of drilling for oil and gas that poses serious environmental and public health risks. Connecticut could be negatively impacted by the disposal of waste products from fracking. While there are no industrial fracking operations currently in Connecticut, volumes of toxic, radioactive, and caustic liquid waste-by-products pose storage, treatment and disposal problems.¹

If toxic, radioactive fracking waste is allowed to be treated, discharged, processed, sold or stored in our state, eventually it will contaminate our public water supply, our air and our land. If it is spread in agricultural areas it will contaminate our food supply.² All of God's children deserve opportunities to live and thrive in their communities and having fracking waste in a community is not a way for it to thrive. Thank you for your work and the opportunity to supply written testimony in support of Senate Bill 753: An Act Concerning the State-Wide Ban on Fracking Waste.

Blessings,
Michele Mudrick
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¹ Citizens Campaign and Waste Free CT
² Grassroots Environmental Education



God is still speaking,

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