(Representative’s Name)

(Address)

Dear (Representative’s Name),

As your constituent, I am contacting you today to express my support for SB 166, a bill introduced by Senators Darren Soto and Dwight Bullard to ban the potentially hazardous practice of Hydraulic Fracturing in our beautiful state of Florida.

I am also asking, as your constituent, that you consider lending your voice and cosponsoring this very important piece of legislation.

There are many environmental and public health concerns that are linked to fracking;

* Community- negative impact to quality of life (e.g. noise, odors from fracking operations), the added burden to transportation and the health infrastructure. The appearance of “Boom town” economics such as an increase in heavy vehicle traffic, the resulting road damage, an increase in demand for housing.
* Surface water contamination resulting from inadequate wastewater treatment.
* Air quality degradation, affecting respiratory health, resulting from increased levels of airborne particulates, increased diesel truck exhaust and VOC (volatile organic chemicals).
* Climate change due to methane and other VOC released into the atmosphere.
* Drinking water impacts due to underground migration of methane and/or fracking chemicals associated with fracking well construction . Shallow methane migration has the potential to impact drinking water wells, creating safety concerns due to increase in explosion potential.
* Surface spills resulting from soil and water contamination, as well as brine coming up from deep shale formation in ground water aquifers. These contaminates have the potential to effect drinking water.
* Health outcomes near HVHF activity have reported a statistical association between some birth outcomes (low birth weight and some congenital defects) and distance of the mother’s residence from well pads during pregnancy.
* Several studies revealed health issues among residents living near HVHF activities. Common symptoms reported in people living in near proximity to HVHF natural gas development are skin rash/irritation, nausea/vomiting, abdominal pain, breathing difficulty/cough, nosebleeds, anxiety/stress, headaches, dizziness, eye or throat irritation.

The dangers associated with fracking are far reaching and entire populations of varying species could be put at risk from a small scale spill. The last thing Florida needs, with our delicate ecosystem and immense underground aquifer system, is hydraulic fracturing.

In December 2014, New York became the second state to ban hydraulic fracturing because of concerns over health risks, including water contamination and air pollution. Vermont has also banned the practice. In addition, New York has a regulation in place that no drilling can be done under an aquifer.

I call on you to make the same commitment to protect the health, environment, communities, and future of Florida by cosponsoring this legislation and banning fracking in our state.

Thank you for your time and attention to this vital piece of legislation.

Respectfully,

(Your Name)

(Address)

(Phone)/(email)