

TO: Members of Kansas House of Representatives Committee on Water and Environment

I urge the Committee members to pass HB 2641 concerning the reduction of waste water injection well volume across the state.

There has been a clear correlation between high volume waste water injection and increased seismic activity dating back to the 1970's. Such induced seismic activity has affected Oklahoma and Kansas in a very dramatic way. The Pawnee earthquake of Sept. 3, 2016, which caused major damage to both private and public buildings in Oklahoma, rocked my home in Coffey County, Kansas and I have experienced several other noticeable tremors. Volume limitations in both Oklahoma and a four-county area in Kansas have reduced the increased seismic activity, but it still remains much higher than levels before the current hydraulic fracking boom. I am sure other testimony today has documented both the increased activity and damage it has caused, so will not repeat that data here.

Additionally, an article in *Bloomberg* on Feb. 9, 2018, reports that there is detectable increased seismic activity in the Oklahoma Scoop & Stack fields where there are no waste water injection wells. This strongly suggests that horizontal fracturing in that area is the cause, which has been previously observed elsewhere.

The gas and oil industries have long been a major force in the Kansas economy, but as recovery of this finite resource has demanded more and more intense methods to achieve production, the risks to our environment have also increased. **Currently, Kansas residents have no viable path to holding the companies reaping the financial rewards accountable for the damage they incur.** It is therefore incumbent upon our legislative representatives to take the responsibility of protecting our citizens. Passage of HB 2641 is one small step toward that end. I urge you to shoulder that responsibility and support this bill on behalf of your constituents.

Sincerely,

Joyce L. Young
830 Dobbin Rd.
Gridley, KS66852