

State of Vermont Senate Chamber



Montpelier, Vermont

Joint Senate Resolution

By Senator Flory,

J.R.S. 26. Joint resolution requesting that the State of Vermont refrain temporarily from supporting or opposing the fluoridation of drinking water and that the Departments of Health and of Environmental Conservation conduct a joint study on the human health and water quality impacts of fluoridated water.

Whereas, fluoridation has been practiced in the United States since the original trials in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Newburgh, New York, beginning in 1945, and

Whereas, the scientific foundation for fluoridation has been and remains insufficient when current standards for human therapeutic treatment are applied, and

Whereas, a recent study in the prestigious *Cochrane Review* failed to confirm the effectiveness of fluoridation, documenting that water fluoridation remains a matter of public debate, and

Whereas, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has declared fluoride, for the purpose of promoting tooth decay prevention, to be a drug, and

Whereas, inserting a drug into the water supply of a municipality constitutes a breach of the medical ethics principle of informed consent, and

Whereas, there exists scientific evidence indicating the likelihood of harm to a portion of the population from the ingestion of fluoride in the combined concentrations found in drinking water, foods, beverages, pesticides and toothpaste, and

Whereas, the dental profession and public health agencies of government fail to acknowledge the above-mentioned risks in their zeal to defend and promote fluoridation, and

Whereas, the fluoridating chemicals municipalities use most frequently are hazardous waste by-products of the phosphate fertilizer industry and lack sufficient guarantees of purity and safety, and

Whereas, civil rights advocates Andrew Young, whose father was a dentist; the Rev. Gerald Durley; and the League of United Latin American Citizens have challenged and oppose the validity of fluoridation as a benefit for the poor, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly requests that the State of Vermont refrain temporarily from supporting or opposing the fluoridation of drinking water and that the Departments of Health and of Environmental Conservation conduct a joint study on the human health and water quality impacts of fluoridated water, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Commissioners of Health and of Environmental Conservation.