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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Legislative Bill

| Red | Bill # SB 26 | |
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Referred to Committee: Senate 2

| Authors: Nacasna Gupta, Tanya Gupta, Hayes Turney, | Action | Action on the Bill | |
|--|------------|--------------------|--|
| School: Anchorage Independent | House | Senate | |
| | □ Passed | Passed | |
| City: Anchorage | ☐ Defeated | ☐ Defeated | |

An act to regulate the use of fracking fluid

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1 – The purpose of this bill is to regulate the use of fracking liquids used by gas exploration companies in Kentucky to protect groundwater, wildlife, and the environment. Hydraulic fracking is the forcing open of fractures or cracks in subterranean rocks like shale by injecting liquid chemicals at high pressure for the purpose of extracting oil or natural gas. The fluid used has many hazardous chemicals. Presently, the companies claim their fracking formulae as being confidential, to maintain their advantage over their competition, and they don't submit to any testing, which would show if the fluid is safe to use on public land. About, 30% to 50% of the fracking fluid is taken out, but the rest of the toxic fluid is left underground and is not biodegradable. When they frack for natural gas and oil, they eventually effect public land for private profits. Sometimes, methane and chemicals leak out and contaminate nearby groundwater. For example, in 2007, the U.S. Geological Survey and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service wrote a report that reported that a fracking fluid spill in Acorn Fork Creek, Kentucky had caused the death of many types of fish due to a fracking fluid spill in Coday, there are an estimated 6,000 shale gas wells using fracking to produce between 50 and 70 billion cubic feet of gas annually in Kentucky.

Section 2 - This bill will require companies to get their hydraulic fracking fluids tested for pH level, electrical conductivity, and chemical testing once a month or switch to nitrogen fracking, a safer way to frack for natural gas and oil. This testing will be done by the Prevention Protection Control Center.

Section 3 – Hydraulic fracking companies will be required to pay \$2,000 to \$3,000 per well per year and an ongoing sales tax of 1% once the gas has started to come out of the well. The money will go to the Prevention Protection Control as a fund so that spill check can be regulated. This will help pay for the bill to enact.

Section 4 – The cost to pay for the labor is coming from the \$2,000 paid per well and the 1% ongoing sales tax of the well. Electrical conductivity meters and pH meters need to be bought each costing about 40 to 100 dollars. About 10 of each meter will need to be bought so the fluid can be tested for safety.

Section 5 – If a spill is found the company responsible will have to pay for the bill of the clean up and give 10% of their income sales to the Prevention Protection Control as a fund so that spill check can be regulated. This will help pay for the bill to enact.

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Section 5 – If a spill is found the company responsible will have to pay for the bill of the clean up and give 10% of their income sales to the Prevention Protection Control. An additional \$300 fine will be added every week if the payment of a fine is delayed.

Section 6

This bill should go into effect 3 years after this bill has been passed.