

Dear Senators,

My name is Jess Whittemore and I am against SB 0878. I live in the town of Friendsville, Garrett County Maryland and my home is on the bank of the Youghiogheny River. I fish, Boat and drink the River as our water treatment plant uses the river to serve our community. 2/3's of Garrett County's land mass drains into the Yough River then flows downstream to our water plant intakes. I am very afraid for our water quality if SB 0878 passes.

Our very own Senator McKay and co-sponsors of Senate Bill 0878 had the opportunity to read through the more than a thousand peer reviewed scientific publications that are available today as well as back in 2017 proving that fracking is dangerous in so many ways especially to surface and ground water yet he and his partners in this bill ignore scientific facts, produce No credible publications that fracking can be performed safely yet he has the gall to continue describing the industry as "safe fracking". That is the epitome of intentional, intellectual dishonesty. And for what? To sacrifice our oasis of pristine beauty known as Garrett County for next to no benefit?

Garrett County is surrounded by States who have condemned their natural beauty and ecology in trade for a few momentary bucks. Garrett Counties economic future depends on its unique pristine ecology. Garrett Counties economic future grows stronger with every fracking well and strip mine that developes in surrounding states like PA and WV.

Maryland Legislators have had the wisdom up until now to protect our natural resources in Western Maryland against intellectually bankrupt polluters like the sponsors of this Bill. Please protest us from Senator McKay's complete disregard for our most precious environment, and resource. Please vote NO on SB 0878.

Thank You, Jess Whittemore

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