

RESOLUTION 2015 - 2

Be it resolved by the Quorum Court of Madison County, State of Arkansas, a resolution to be entitled:

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE REPEAL OF ACT 197 OF 2011, THE MANDATE OF ADDING FLUORIDE TO THE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS

WHEREAS, water fluoridation is defined as the addition of industrial-grade fluoride, typically fluorosilicic acid, to a public water supply to treat dental caries; and

WHEREAS, the responsibility of public water systems in Arkansas is to make water more potable, not to add chemical substances which could potentially negatively affect the bodily functions of the water consumer; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the number one promoter of fluoridation, conceded that the predominant benefit of fluoride is topical, not systemic, meaning that, in preventing tooth decay, fluoride works best on the outside of the teeth, not from inside the body; and

WHEREAS, fluoridation of the public water supply takes away a person's choice regarding the consumption of an unregulated medication, requiring anyone who wants fluoride-free water to buy expensive reverse osmosis or distillation equipment, as pitcher, refrigerator, or faucet-mounted water filters do not remove fluoride, or constantly purchase and transport non-fluoridated or distilled bottled water; and

WHEREAS, exposing the citizens of Madison County to unregulated and indiscriminate doses of medications without informed consent does not address patient rights laws; taking into consideration that a person should not be forced into any medical treatment or into taking any drugs a patient felt would do harm to their body; and the history of the right to refuse medical treatment in the USA which has been determined by two major judicial opinions: Union Pacific Railway Co. v. Botsford, 141 U.S. 250, 251 and Schloendorff v. Society of New York Hospital, 105 N.E. 92, 93; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has suggested using non-fluoridated water for mixing infant formula to help avoid dental fluorosis, permanent white marks on teeth caused by drinking fluoridated water while teeth are forming, the cosmetic repair of which creates an economic hardship for large numbers of families, and

WHEREAS, public water systems in Arkansas not only provide water for human consumption, but also for personal hygiene, household cleaning, gardening and lawn care, watering of poultry and livestock, and for business and industrial usages; none of which benefit from the addition of fluoride to the public water supply; in fact, the vast majority of water supplied by water systems in Arkansas is used for purposes other than human consumption; and

WHEREAS, the ongoing cost of water fluoridation is expensive and that cost must be passed on to the water consumer, and

WHEREAS, fluorosilicic acid, the most commonly used additive for water fluoridation in the United States, is not the pharmaceutical grade product used in dental offices, which is recommended not to swallow, but is a liquid by-product of phosphate fertilizer manufacturing plants, and also contains varying levels of cancerous arsenic, lead, radon, mercury, cadmium, and other hazardous contaminants that would be ingested by residents or released with the treated water; and purchasing the actual chemical product has now been outsourced mostly from China, with no safety tests or contaminant levels tested after it arrives in the USA; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of Arkansas, in Article 7, Section 28 provides "exclusive original jurisdiction" to the county courts of the respective counties in "every other case that may be necessary for the internal improvement and local concerns of the respective counties" -- which broad power of local jurisdiction belonging to the local county court has historically been cherished by Arkansans, both in the spirit and the letter of the law; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

SECTION 1: The Quorum Court of Madison County, Arkansas, respectfully calls for the Arkansas General Assembly to repeal Act 197 of 2011, which is also known as the mandatory water fluoridation act; and that the concerns and principles herein conveyed by the duly elected local officials of the citizens of Madison County be observed and respected in consideration of any rules and future activities regarding the guidelines for Clean Water.

SECTION 2: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from after its passage and approval on this date 17th day of February 2015; and the County Clerk of Madison County is hereby directed to file this resolution and forward a file-marked copy to the Arkansas General Assembly and individually to the State Senator and State Representatives who represent Madison County.

Hon. County Judge

DATE

Hon. County Clerk

DATE