

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



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March 20, 2013

Mr. Richard T. Othmer, Jr.
Chairman
Putnam County Legislature
40 Gleneida Ave., 3rd Fl.
Carmel, NY 10512

Dear Chairman Othmer and Members of the Putnam County Legislature:

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you all on the passage of legislation banning the use of hydraulic fracturing waste materials on Putnam County's public and private roads. The unanimous vote that led to this victory shows a true bipartisan effort to ensure the safety of our county's residents and is something we in Albany should look to as an example.

Your actions represent an important step towards protecting the health and preserving the quality of life of Putnam County residents. Keeping "fracking" waste out of products used to de-ice roads and out of wastewater treatment centers is a common-sense measure that would prevent our constituents from being exposed to dangerous chemical and radioactive materials.

I have sponsored similar legislation in the Senate (S.3333). The bill would apply some of these safeguards to the entire state by prohibiting the use of fracking wastewater on all public roads. As you know, these byproducts include a variety of contaminants that can damage our water, air, land, and food supplies. While I join you in urging other municipalities and local governments to pass similar measures to your legislation, I hope my colleagues in state government will join me in expanding these protections to all New Yorkers.

I again want to congratulate the Putnam County Legislature for working in a bipartisan fashion to pass legislation that will benefit our entire community. These measures represent government upholding its responsibility to protect our public health and safety through common-sense initiatives that have a real impact on people's lives. Thank you for your hard work and dedication, and for the example you have set for the rest of our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Terry Gipson", written over a horizontal line.

Terry Gipson
Senator