Memo of Support

A. 10940/S. 7592

An act to establish a moratorium on conducting hydraulic fracturing for extraction of natural gas or oil in New York State until 120 days after the Environmental Protection Agency issues a report on the effects of hydraulic fracturing on water quality, air quality and other public health impacts.

The American Academy of Pediatrics, District II, NYS, representing more than 6,000 pediatricians and the millions of children we care for across the state, strongly supports A10940/S7592.

This legislation provides an opportunity for the EPA to study the potential public health impacts of hydraulic fracturing, and for New York State’s leaders to have that information before it makes any decision about permitting hydraulic fracturing in our state.

AAP, District II, NYS membership is concerned about the potential negative impacts on water, air, soil contamination, increased traffic and possible spills of contaminated materials in areas where many children and families live. Allowing time for the EPA study will allow our state leaders to move forward on this issue fully informed about whether hydraulic fracturing is a good public policy for our state.

We urge the legislature to pass this legislation now, imposing the moratorium to provide the time to for our state leaders to have the latest EPA data to inform our decisions going forward.