

S 3062

FRAC Act of 2019

Congress: 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Dec 17, 2019

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works. (Dec 17, 2019)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/3062>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]

Party: Democratic • **State:** PA • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (5 total)

| Cosponsor | Party / State | Role | Date Joined |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL] | D · IL | | Dec 19, 2019 |
| Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR] | D · OR | | Dec 19, 2019 |
| Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI] | D · RI | | Dec 19, 2019 |
| Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA] | D · CA | | Jan 13, 2020 |
| Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD] | D · MD | | Jul 23, 2020 |

Committee Activity

| Committee | Chamber | Activity | Date |
|--|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Environment and Public Works Committee | Senate | Referred To | Dec 17, 2019 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals Act or the FRAC Act

This bill revises requirements governing hydraulic fracturing operations under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Hydraulic fracturing or fracking is a process to extract underground resources such as oil or gas from a geologic formation by injecting water, a propping agent (e.g., sand), and chemical additives into a well under enough pressure to fracture the geological formation.

The bill repeals the exemption for such operations relating to oil and natural gas production activities under the act.

The bill allows the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to prescribe regulations that authorize a state to seek primary enforcement responsibility for hydraulic fracturing operations for oil and natural gas without seeking to assume primary enforcement responsibility for other types of underground injection control wells.

The bill requires public disclosure of the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing operations. The chemicals intended for use in underground injections must be disclosed before the operations commence. The chemicals actually used must be disclosed at the end of the operations.

In the event that the proprietary chemical formula of a chemical used in such hydraulic fracturing is necessary for medical diagnosis, treatment, or emergency response, hydraulic fracturing operations must disclose the formula or the specific chemical identity of a trade secret chemical to the state, the EPA, a first responder, or a health care practitioner upon request, regardless of the existence of a written statement of need or a confidentiality agreement.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 17, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Dec 17, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.