

Kingdom Congress of Illinois

Biblical Resolution Concerning Hydraulic Fracturing B1310

Preamble

We the citizens* of the Kingdom Congress* in order to apply God's eternal principles, limit boundary violations, empower legitimate land stewardship, and release the economic potential within the state of Illinois do hereby declare Hydraulic Fracturing* as a legitimate method of accessing the resources available to us. Therefore, we do decree and affirm the following resolution pertaining to Hydraulic Fracturing, effective immediately.

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Section 1: Short Title

Biblical Resolution* Concerning Hydraulic Fracturing*

Section 5: Definitions

(Items followed by an * are defined below)

- (a) Hydraulic Fracturing Commonly referred to as Fracking - the procedure of creating fractures in rocks and rock formations by injecting fluid into cracks to force them further open. The larger fissures allow more oil and gas to flow out of the formation and into the wellbore, from where it can be extracted
- (b) Congress – a formal meeting or assembly of representatives for the discussion, arrangement, or promotion of some matter of common interest
- (c) Citizens of Kingdom Congress- individuals who first and foremost are citizens of the Kingdom of God and, therefore, qualify to vote as a member of the Kingdom Congress of Illinois by verifying their belief in and affirmation to the basic tenets of the Christian faith.
- (d) Resolution – a formal statement of opinion or determination adopted by the assembly of Kingdom Congress
- (e) Spheres – those realms of diversified and specialized areas of labor through which men cooperate to fulfill the Dominion Mandate and which, for the purpose of Kingdom Congress, will be identified as Religion, Family, Education, Civil Government, Media, Arts and Entertainment, and Business.
- (f) Dominion Mandate – God’s commission to mankind, who was created in the image of God and given dominion over the created order, to take responsibility to manage the earth and to make the earth fruitful. (Gen. 1:26-28)
- (g) Regulation – a law, rule, or other order prescribed by the civil government, especially to regulate conduct
- (h) Parties – individuals and/or corporations
- (i) Personal Liberties – freedom to act according to one’s conscience under the stipulations of God’s Word and under civil laws that do not contradict God’s Word.
- (j) Common Good – that which is considered good for all men yet not at the expense of personal liberty and which avoids the breach of any boundary of property or person as defined in scripture
- (k) Contaminants – that which makes impure or unsuitable by contact or mixture with something unclean, bad, or polluted, thus rendering it harmful and/or unusable
- (l) Safety - a the state of being safe from experiencing or causing injury or loss
- (m) Restitution – the act of restoring to the rightful owner something that has been taken away and compensating for loss, damage, or injury

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Section 10: The Ten Commandments framework as concerning Hydraulic Fracturing:

Ex 20:15, Commandment #8: “Do not steal”

Ex 20:16, Commandment #9: “Do not bear false witnesses”

Ex 20:17, Commandment #10: “Do not covet”

Section 15: Cooperation of the Spheres

In the execution of the Dominion Mandate*, humanity diversifies and specializes into spheres of cultural activity. Each sphere derives its authority and limitations from scripture. The three primary spheres that have governance in the issue of Hydraulic Fracturing are Business, Civil government, and Media. The preeminent responsibility rests upon the Business sphere. The Civil realm and Media function to maintain and support the integrity of Business.

Section 20: Duties, Powers, and Limitations

(a) BUSINESS

The Duties of Business

- (1) The duty of business is to operate within the organized systems of men’s labors, time and assets for the production, distribution and consumption of material goods and the methodology by which men exchange those commodities in the context of society. (Ps.128:2; Jn.4:38)
- (2) In the business of Hydraulic Fracturing the duty of the landowner is to make a free will decision to allow or deny Hydraulic Fracturing via contractual agreement.
- (3) The duty of those parties seeking to obtain, distribute, and/or use the product of Hydraulic Fracturing is to offer legitimate contracts, abide by the terms of the contracts, and comply with all regulations*. (Gen. 26:28,29)

The Powers of Business

- (1) The power of all business is derived from goods, services and properties, whether real or intellectual. Landowners, and parties* seeking to obtain, distribute, and/or use the product generated by Hydraulic Fracturing or suppliers of equipment and/or means to generate Hydraulic Fracturing are empowered to make contracts.

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The Limitations of Business

Businesses involved in Hydraulic Fracturing shall not:

- (1) Present fraudulent contracts (Pr. 26:26; 29:27; James 5:4)
- (2) Utilize coercive business practices
- (3) Trespass any neighbor's boundary (Deut. 5:19, 21; Hos. 5:10)

(b) CIVIL GOVERNMENT

The Duties of Civil Government

- (1) The duty of the Civil Government sphere is to ensure the free exercise of biblically-defined personal liberties*, promote the common good*, and to establish and enforce laws through legislative, judicial and executive bodies.

The Powers of Civil Government

- (1) The power of the Civil Government realm is derived from God to execute judgment against the law breaker. (Rom.13:1-5)
- (2) The Civil realm is granted authority to adjudicate breaches of Hydraulic Fracturing contracts, private property, and/or mineral rights. The Government is charged with responsibility to create laws to regulate the industry in regards to contaminants* and safety*. (Lev. 10:10; Lev. 13)

The Limitation of Civil Government

The biblical limitation of the Civil Government sphere regarding Hydraulic Fracturing mandates that the Government shall not:

- (1) Allow Adjudications to be corrupted through bribes or bias (Eccl. 7:7; Prov. 18:5)
- (2) Create laws over-regulating the responsible practices of private business (Job 34:17)
- (3) Assert the right to appropriate any private property, work product, or inheritance for public or state use (Pr. 13:22)

(c) MEDIA

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The Duties of the Media

- (1) The duty of the Media is to investigate, verify, and disseminate factual and unbiased information in order to bring forth a true testimony concerning Hydraulic Fracturing. (Pr. 12:7)

The Powers of the Media

- (1) The power of the media is derived from effective distribution of information and the influence that information has on the decision-making processes of people.

The Limitations of the Media

Media reporting on Hydraulic Fracturing shall not:

- (1) Misrepresent, distort or suppress truth (Pr. 22:20-21)
- (2) Seek to indoctrinate public opinion towards a particular bias
- (3) Compromise the truth for financial gain, popular opinion, or expansion of their powerbase (Pr. 23:23)

Section 25: Applicability

The principles contained within this resolution apply specifically to the civil, business, and media spheres and, in general, to organizations or individuals who demonstrate an interest in Hydraulic Fracturing.

Section 30: Sanctions

(a) BUSINESS

Negative Sanctions

- (1) Breaching contracts may result in:
 - Legal ramifications
 - Restitution* of damages (Ex. 22:1-12; Lev. 6:2-7)
 - Relational breaches and/or strife (Gen. 29:18-25; 31:4-12)
 - Damage to personal or business reputation (Pr. 22:1)
- (2) Violating civil regulations may result in:
 - Legal ramifications (Rom. 13:1-5;

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- (3) Trespassing the moral imperatives found within God's Word and biblical resolution may result in:
- God's just penalty applied (Ez. 22:29-31)
 - Sow injustice, reap calamity (Pr. 22:8)

Positive Sanctions

- (1) Keeping contracts may result in:
- Relational harmony and/or peace (Amos 3:3; Heb. 12:14)
 - Co-operation for increased productivity (Deut. 28:2-8)
 - Honorable reputation (Pr. 22:1)
- (2) Complying with moral imperatives found within God's Word and biblical resolution may result in:
- Diligent bearing rule (Pr. 12:24)
 - Promotion (Ps. 75:6-7)
 - Reaping a sure reward (Pr. 11:18)

(b) CIVIL GOVERNMENT

Negative Sanctions

- (1) Adjudicating and judging based upon corruption, biases, or prejudices may result in:
- Exposure of the corruption (Mk. 4:22)
 - Loss of office (Jer. 6:28; Lk. 1:51-51)
 - Legal ramifications
 - Breakdown of the rule of law and/or justice (I Sam. 2:27-32; 8:1-6)
- (2) Over-reaching of jurisdictional authority may result in:
- Breakdown of economic stability (II Ki. 25:1-3; Joel 1)
 - Oppression of personal liberties (Ex. 2:23; 3:7)
 - Civil unrest
 - The judgment of God (Deut. 28: 15-68)

Positive Sanctions

- (1) Protecting personal liberties may result in:
- Promotion of individual and national productivity and prosperity (Deut. 7:12-15; 8:6-11; 28:1-14)
 - Utilization of natural resources
 - Procurement of public trust (Pr. 29:2)
- (2) Promoting the Common Good may result in:
- Containment of contaminants (Lev. 13)
 - Maintenance of law and order

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- Safeguarding of justice (Ps. 37:1-9)
- The blessings of God (Prov. 10:22; James 1:17)

(c) MEDIA

Negative Sanctions

- (1) Reporting inaccurate information may have an adverse effect on the general population causing:
 - Uninformed and/or misinformed populace
 - Culture of fear (I Sam. 17:1-11; II Chron. 32:9-19)
 - Schism in public unity (Num. 13:16-33)
 - Civil unrest
- (2) Propagating misinformation may have an adverse effect on the Media, itself, causing:
 - Loss of reputation and credibility (Dan. 6:1-24; Num. 20:1-13; 21:4-9)
 - Loss of revenue
 - Legal ramifications
- (3) Failing to comply with the moral responsibility to be a faithful witness plus any actions resulting from the reporting of falsehoods may result in the biblical penalties ascribed to a false witness. (Deut. 19:16-19; Pr. 19:5; Is. 5:20-21)

Positive Sanctions

- (1) Reporting true and accurate information may result in:
 - Good judgment (Pr. 14:25a)
 - Hindrance to darkness and/or lies
 - Bringing to light deeds done in darkness (Ps. 112:4)
 - Exposure of corruption
 - Rewards of watchdog reporting
 - Heraldry of integrity
- (2) Complying with the moral imperative to give a faithful witness may result in righteous judgment and earned reward being meted out