



THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
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TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE JUDICIARY SUBCOMMITTEE ON S.105 AND S.112\*  
18 January 2017

Thank you for this opportunity to address this issue. I am Lynn Teague of the League of Women Voters of South Carolina.

The League opposes the passage of S.105 and S.112\*. In the most basic terms, the League's concern is that South Carolina's laws must allow all citizens a meaningful voice in decisions that affect their lives. These bills would seriously mute that voice in many cases.

What is a homeowner to do when faced with plans for a noxious waste dump adjacent their home, or a dam on upstream private property that might endanger lives, or the potential for toxic wastes in a stream on their property? These bills would limit the use of the automatic stay to 30 days and tells that the Administrative Law Court that they may require citizens to post bonds sufficient to cover the cost of litigation and project delay when granting a preliminary injunction.

If this becomes law, South Carolina will provide justice only for the most affluent, for those who can afford to buy fair treatment in court. Middle and lower income citizens would be deprived of a realistic voice. One could argue that our regulatory agencies would protect those citizens adequately, but realistically we all know that is often not the case, both because our state and local government agencies are not sufficiently well funded and because they are sometimes subject to external pressures, even political pressures, that affect their decision-making.

We ask that you reject S.105 and S.112"\*.

\* please note that as of January 24<sup>th</sup>, S.112 was dropped

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