# COUNTY AGENDA REQUEST

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| Department: | Board of Commissioners | Presenter(s): | Commissioner Randy Ognio |
| Meeting Date: | Thursday, December 11, 2014 | Type of Request: | New Business |

Wording for the Agenda:

Consideration of Commissioner Ognio's recommendation to adopt Resolution 2014-19 requesting the Fayette County Legislative Delegation to consider offering changes to the statue governing the use of fluoride in drinking water.

Background/History/Details:

During the summer of 2014, Fayette County, through its interns, researched the issue of continuing fluoridating its water system. This research culminated with a meeting held on August 28, 2014 during which the findings of the interns was discussed.

In order to begin the process of removing the requirement of fluoridation of the water supply, state law requires that a petition be signed by at least ten percent of the registered votes from the previous general election. This requirement seems overly burdensome.

Commissioner Ognio is requesting that Resolution 2014-19 be adopted by the Board. The resolution will request Fayette County's Legislative Delegation to remove the burden of the "petition of 10 percent of the registered voters in such political division who voted in the last general election" from the existing statute and will allow all counties and cities who supply water to simply call for a referendum of their citizens.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Approval of Commissioner Ognio's recommendation to adopt Resolution 2014-19 requesting the Fayette County Legislative Delegation to consider offering changes to the statue governing the use of fluoride in drinking water.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Not Applicable.

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| Has this request been considered within the past two years? | No | If so, when? | |
| Is Audio-Visual Equipment Required for this Request?* | No | Backup Provided with Request? | Yes |

**** All audio-visual material must be submitted to the County Clerk's Office no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. It is also your department's responsibility to ensure all third-party audio-visual material is submitted at least 48 hours in advance.***

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| Approved by Finance | Not Applicable | Reviewed by Legal | |
| Approved by Purchasing | Not Applicable | County Clerk's Approval | Yes |
| Administrator's Approval | | | |

Staff Notes:

**County of Fayette;**
**State of Georgia**

# RESOLUTION 2014-19

## RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE FAYETTE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION TO CONSIDER OFFERING CHANGES TO THE STATUE GOVERNING THE USE OF FLUORIDE IN DRINKING WATER

**WHEREAS**, The Fayette County Board of Commissioners has held several public discussions pertaining to the use of fluoride in drinking water which is mandated by the State of Georgia; and

**WHEREAS**, Noting that a number of Western European countries have elected not to fluoridate their drinking water; nevertheless, there is little statistical difference in tooth decay numbers compared to the U.S. ; and

**WHEREAS**, Fluoride is classified as a drug that is subject to U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulation, and quantity of consumption cannot be accurately controlled, especially by young children; and

**WHEREAS**, Many are in agreement with Swedish Nobel Laureate and Professor of Pharmacology Arvid Carlsson that fluoride is readily available commercially in a multitude of products, so the government should not have to force fluoride on anyone; and

**WHEREAS**, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, October 22, 1999, stated that the predominate benefit from fluoride is through topical application and most fluoride is water ingested; and

**WHEREAS**, Many homeowners in Fayette County utilize well water that has no added fluoride and no evidence has yet to be provided where those drinking from a well have more tooth decay than those who do not; and

**WHEREAS**, In the existing statue, the petition requiring 10 percent of the registered voters from the previous general election to remove fluoride seems overly burdensome; and

**WHEREAS**, The Fayette County Board of Commissioners believes "home rule" is important and that the citizens should be allowed to control their own destiny, especially related to drugs or other substances added to their drinking water;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT** the Board of Commissioners of Fayette County does hereby request that our county Legislative Delegation to act to remove the burden of the "petition of 10 percent of the registered voters in such political subdivision who voted in the last general election" from the existing statute and allow counties and cities who supply water to simply call for a referendum of their citizens.

So resolved this 11th day of December 2014, by the

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**
**FAYETTE COUNTY, GEORGIA**

Attest:

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Steve Brown, Chairman

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Floyd L. Jones, County Clerk