



**Testimony of Dr. Laura Feinstein, Pacific Institute to the California Assembly
Committee on Natural Resources on Assembly Bill 1328, Oil and Gas: Wells
(Assemblymember Limón)**

April 24, 2017

Hello, I am Dr. Laura Feinstein, a Senior Research Associate with the Pacific Institute. Pacific Institute is a global water think-tank in Oakland, California.

I was one of the lead authors of the Senate Bill 4 scientific assessment of Well Stimulation commissioned by the California Natural Resources Agency.

I am here to describe findings and recommendations made in the SB 4 report relevant to today's discussion.

In the SB 4 report we were tasked with evaluating the impact to the environment and human health by well stimulation, and specifically the practice of hydraulic fracturing or "fracking."

We found that we could not accurately assess the hazard of chemical releases to the environment because of a number of data gaps. One of these gaps was that we did not know the identity of all chemicals used in the oil and gas production process. As you may know, SB 4 requires disclosure for chemicals used for well stimulation only. SB 1281 requires reporting of the treatment and disposal of wastewater from oil and gas production wells. Neither requires that producers disclose the identity and quantity of chemicals used for purposes other than well stimulation.

To remedy the data gap, we made Recommendation 4.2, which was that the state "require reporting of all significant chemical use, including acids, for oil and gas development."