



LULAC CONCILIO ZAPATISTA 4383



08/19/15

Henry Rodriguez
Founder and Executive Director
LULAC Concilio Zapatista 4383
2404 Leal
San Antonio, TX 78207

Dear Austin City Council:

I am writing to you, as the Founder and Executive Director of the LULAC Concilio Zapatista 4383, 2015 National LULAC "Man of the Year", Past LULAC Texas Civil Rights Chair and co-author of the 2011 LULAC Resolution Opposing Water fluoridation as a Civil Rights Violation. As you may know, LULAC is the oldest and largest Hispanic Civil Rights organization in the country. LULAC Concilio Zapatista 4383 is the most active, dynamic, and well-respected LULAC Council in the country.

Our resolution opposing water fluoridation was passed at the 2011 National LULAC Convention held in Cincinnati. I was unaware at the time, that Cincinnati had been fluoridated for 32 years (since 1979) and yet was in "dental crisis."

According to the 10/6/2002 edition of the Cincinnati Enquirer:

"City and regional medical officials say tooth decay is the city's No. 1 unmet health-care need. 'We cannot meet the demand,' says Dr. Larry Hill, Cincinnati Health Department dental director. 'It's absolutely heartbreaking and a travesty. We have kids in this community with severe untreated dental infections. People would be shocked to learn how bad the problem has become.'"

However, I am not shocked. San Antonio has been fluoridated for 13 years and it has been widely reported that the dental caries rates of poor children have exceeded pre-fluoridation levels. It is distressing to know that this policy continues based on the false hope that Hydrofluosilicic Acid, a known toxicant, will reduce dental caries. The CDC, a 'trusted organization' continues to make this assertion even though they are well aware that cities like Cincinnati, a city in "dental crisis" has been fluoridated for 35 years and that San Antonio dental caries rates increased.

San Antonio, was the target of fluoridation promoters multiple times (1966, 1985 and 2000). Our City Council, decided (in 1984) that 'the democratic process was inconvenient' and took steps to fluoridate without a public vote. However, the Homeowner Taxpayer Association of Bexar County led a group of concerned citizens and gathered 20,000 signatures to force a referendum on the issue in 1985. Fluoridation was defeated. Clearly, proponents of fluoridation try not to let anything get in their way, including the democratic process, which they seem to view as "voter interference" and of course, the facts, which show fluoridation is not safe for all and not effective.

Unfortunately, the referendum to fluoridate San Antonio passed in 2000 after proponents spent more than half a million dollars. A reasonable person would ask why that money was not spent on real dental care for the poor! In the 2000 Referendum, City Council Districts 1- 6 (the South and West Side), predominantly minority voters, rejected fluoridation overwhelmingly. Sadly, these are the very people that fluoridation affects the most, because they are least likely able to buy bottled water or equipment to remove the fluoridation chemicals, which do not just affect teeth, but affect the whole body.

The referendum passed in 2000 based on recommendations by 'trusted organizations' much like the many organizations that promote it in Austin.

Hydrofluosilicic acid, the chemical used in over 90% of communities to "fluoridate" has been pumped into our public water system since August 2002. It has been 13 years that San Antonians have been ingesting this Hazardous Class 8 (Corrosive) Poison, and we now know :

Fluoridation is NOT Safe for all.

Promoters (the HHS - Health and Human Services, CDC - Centers for Disease Control, and the ADA - American Dental Association) now warn *"if your child is exclusively consuming infant formula reconstituted with fluoridated water, there may be an increased chance for mild dental fluorosis. To lessen this chance, parents can use low-fluoride bottled water some of the time to mix infant formula; these bottled waters are labeled as de-ionized, purified, de-mineralized, or distilled."* This is clearly a hardship for poor families, and affects the very children promoters claim to be helping with fluoridation chemicals.

Promoters posted warnings on their web pages and alerted their members but did not ask that water utilities put this information on water bills, they did not ask local health officials to inform the public, and they did not inform local governments to issue Public Service Announcements to warn the public. Therefore, we believe these organizations (HHS, CDC, and the ADA) are more protective of the public policy of fluoridation than they are of public health.

Fluoridation is NOT Effective.

'Dental caries experience' rates are actually HIGHER after fluoridation in Head Start Children than before fluoridation in San Antonio. Data supporting this assertion is posted on our website, <http://www.lulaczapatista.org> - Click on the Fluoridation tab.

Dental health officials decided to omit 'dental caries experience rates' from the annual Bexar County Health Profiles report claiming that the public does not need the data. From this action we have concluded that our Health Department is more protective of the public policy of fluoridation than they are of truth and transparency.

And, we found the following to be true:

Water utilities (SAWS) cannot control the concentration of fluoride (necessary to determine dose)
Water utilities (SAWS) list "fluoride" as a **Regulated Water CONTAMINANT** on Annual Reports
Water utilities (SAWS) cannot prevent "fluoride spills" (Dec. 2004 fluoride was found in the water at the Westin Riverwalk Hotel at 280 PPM - see <http://www.TexansForSafeDrinkingWater.com>)
City/County health officials (Bexar Metropolitan Health District) are more protective of the public policy of fluoridation than they are of public health. Locally, our public health Director, Dr. Thomas Schlenker refused to warn mothers about the risks of dental fluorosis.
Elected Officials (San Antonio City Council) are also very protective of this policy, no matter how much evidence comes out showing possible harm and lack of effectiveness, they refuse to rescind fluoridation.

[SAWS = San Antonio Water System]

Background information on how the LULAC Concilio Zapatistas became involved :

In 2000 the voters trusted the HHS, the CDC and the ADA that fluoridation chemicals were safe for **all** to drink at **1.0 PPM**. However, in January 2011 these 'trusted organizations' posted on their websites that infants should be breast-fed or fed formula made with low-fluoride water, to protect the child from developing the permanent mottling and pitting of teeth, a condition called fluorosis.

Additionally, these 'trusted organizations' admitted that studies ending in 2004, showed that 41% of adolescents exhibited harm from fluoride, in the form of dental fluorosis and that minorities are more likely to be harmed. They also admitted that fluorosis rates had been increasing over time and it seemed likely that by 2011, the rates would be even higher.

The LULAC Concilio Zapatistas, had opposed fluoridation in 2000, and with this new evidence of possible harm to infants and minorities, we became determined to find out exactly what benefits could possibly outweigh this danger.

We subsequently contacted local elected officials and they responded that there are "no documents" showing any benefit for the 10 years of fluoridation expense. We met with then Director of Public Health (Dr. Thomas Schlenker) and Dental Coordinator (Dr. Jennifer Bankler), however, neither had proof of effectiveness. The Director of Public Health refused to advise mothers about the HHS, CDC, and ADA warnings of possible "mild dental fluorosis."

Ultimately, in our quest to uncover the benefits of fluoridation, we instead found proof that dental caries rates were HIGHER after fluoridation in the target group (poor children in the Head Start Program) than before fluoridation ! A local news station covered this topic and the video appears on our website at <http://www.lulaczapatista.org>.

It was then, that we decided to oppose this wasteful, potentially damaging policy. In February 2011, we authored a resolution opposing fluoridation as a Civil Rights Violation because it essentially forces medication on everyone that eats food or drinks liquid processed with water treated with fluoridation chemicals.

We submitted our resolution to the LULAC Texas Organization, and it passed in February 2011. In July 2011, we introduced our resolution at the National LULAC Convention in Cincinnati and it passed unanimously. (Please see our videos on <http://www.lulaczapatista.org> - Click on the Fluoridation tab.)

Most likely, promoters of fluoridation in Austin continue to promise lower dental caries that translates to lower oral healthcare expenses, a sizeable burden to the taxpayers. We have not seen a reduction in oral healthcare expense locally. In fact, in January of 2013, perhaps as a result of higher dental caries rates, our county oral health officials applied for \$ 937,000 in additional ANNUAL expenditures and on April 15, 2013 our City Council voted to expand the fluoride varnish program by another \$ 72,000. [There are other more recent expenditures .. which will be posted on our website in the near future.]

We were told in 2000 that fluoridation would cost "12 cents per water connection per month." In January 2013 the San Antonio Water System contract for hydrofluosilicic acid was approved by the San Antonio Water System Board of Trustees at a cost of \$ 1.124 MILLION. This expenditure is only for the fluoridation chemical and does not include the cost for training employees to handle this toxic corrosive chemical, the costs for the hazardous materials gear that water utility employees must wear to put the chemicals in the water, the costs for their time, the costs for transporting the chemical to each pumping station, the costs for the pumping station equipment, the costs to test water samples for fluoride concentrations, and the costs to replace the equipment as it degrades from interaction with this corrosive chemical. Additionally, water utilities must pay the salaries of all management employees tasked with overseeing this program. Essentially, proponents are omitting important cost information and to get this information you will most likely be forced to issue a FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) or Open Records Request.

Most importantly concerning cost, the fact that fluoridation is NOT effective at reducing dental caries or oral healthcare expenditures, means that "every dollar spent on fluoridation is a dollar wasted." We believe this money would be better spent providing quality dental care, dental hygiene products, and nutrition. We believe that public health officials and elected officials can do better than this failed policy.

And finally, the CDC claim that fluoridation is one of the "10 great public health achievements " certainly puts their credibility in question, based on current science and our experience.

I ask that you look very closely at this issue, as my LULAC Council did. I am confident that after contemplating the failure this policy has been in San Antonio and other fluoridated cities that are in "dental crisis," that you will decide to support the efforts of Fluoride Free Austin to protect the citizens of Austin by stopping the addition of Hydrofluosilicic Acid into the public water supplies.

Best Wishes,



Henry Rodriguez

HR/nmk

2015 LULAC "Man of the Year"

Past LULAC Texas Civil Rights Chair

(LULAC Texas Civil Rights Chair when Resolution was passed)

Founder and Director - LULAC Concilio Zapatistas 4383

(210) 857-5329 Email: lulaczapatista@yahoo.com

<http://www.lulaczapatista.org> (Click on the Fluoridation tab)

Co-authors of the LULAC Resolution Opposing fluoridation, are George Alejos, LULAC District XV Director of Affordable Housing, Cindy Gustamante, President, LULAC Concilio Zapatista 4383, and Linda Alfaro, Vice-President, LULAC Concilio Zapatista 4383. Linda Alfaro, attended the Cincinnati LULAC National Convention and was instrumental in passing this Resolution. George Alejos can be reached at (210) 825-6200.

[Sign In](#) | [Register Now](#)

**LEAGUE of UNITED LATIN
AMERICAN CITIZENS**
[LULAC En Español](#)
[SEARCH / BUSCAR](#)

[ANDALE / GO »](#)
[BECOME AN E-MEMBER](#)

[vamos](#)

[GO](#)
[DONATE
NOW](#)
[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Members](#) [Programs](#) [Advocacy](#) [Events](#) [Media](#) [Blog](#) [My Lulac](#)
[Home](#) » [Advocacy](#) » [Resolutions](#) »

[Send This](#) [Print This](#) [Share](#)

Civil Rights Violation Regarding Forced Medication

WHEREAS, the League of United Latin American Citizens is this nation's oldest and largest Latino organization, founded in Corpus Christi, Texas on February 24, 1929; and


**LEAGUE of UNITED LATIN
AMERICAN CITIZENS**

WHEREAS, LULAC throughout its history has committed itself to the principles that Latinos have equal access to opportunities in employment, education, housing and healthcare; and

WHEREAS, LULAC advocates for the well-being of, but not exclusively of, Hispanics throughout our country; and

WHEREAS, safe drinking water is a necessity for life; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of a public water supply is to supply water to the entire community which is composed of people with varying health conditions, in varying stages of life, and of varying economic status; not to forcibly mass medicate the population which is a civil rights violation; and

WHEREAS, fluoridation is mass medication of the public through the public water supply; and

WHEREAS, current science shows that fluoridation chemicals pose increased risk to sensitive subpopulations, including infants, the elderly, diabetics, kidney patients, and people with poor nutritional status; and

WHEREAS, minority communities are more highly impacted by fluorides as they historically experience more diabetes and kidney disease; and

WHEREAS, minorities are disproportionately harmed by fluorides as documented by increased rates of dental fluorosis (disfiguration and discoloration of the teeth); and

WHEREAS, the National Research Council in 2006 established that there are large gaps in the research on fluoride's effects on the whole body; a fact that contradicts previous assurances made by public health officials and by elected officials, that fluorides and fluoridation have been exhaustively researched; and

WHEREAS, a growing number of cities and health professionals have rejected fluoridation based on current science and the recognition of a person's right to choose what goes into his/her body; and

WHEREAS, the CDC now recommends that non-fluoridated water be used for infant formula (if parents want to avoid dental fluorosis – a permanent mottling and staining of teeth), which creates an economic hardship for large numbers of families, minority and otherwise; and

WHEREAS, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), founded in 1929, has historically been a champion of the disenfranchised and a leader in the fight for social and environmental justice; and

WHEREAS, City Council Districts 1-6 of San Antonio (predominantly minority districts) voted overwhelmingly that the public water supply should not be contaminated with fluoridation chemicals; and

WHEREAS, the election to fluoridate the water, essentially disenfranchised the right of these minority Districts to safe drinking water for all; and

[JOIN TODAY](#)
[DONATE](#)
[TAKE ACTION](#)

Our Priorities


[Civic Participation](#)

[Civil Rights](#)

[Economic Empowerment](#)

[Education](#)

[Health](#)

[Housing](#)

[Immigration](#)

[Public Service](#)

[Technology](#)

WHEREAS, the U.S. Health and Human Services and the EPA (January 2011) have recently affirmed the NRC Study results that citizens may be ingesting too much fluoride and that the exposure is primarily from drinking water; and

WHEREAS, the proponents of fluoridation promised a safe and effective dental health additive, but the San Antonio Water System's (SAWS) contract for fluoridation chemicals proves a "bait and switch"; as SAWS is adding the toxic waste by-product of the phosphate fertilizer industry, that has no warranty for its safety and effectiveness for any purpose from the supplier (PENCCO, Inc.) or the source (Mosaic Chemical); and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that LULAC commends efforts by organizations that oppose forced mass medication of the public drinking supplies using fluorides that are industrial grade, toxic waste by-products which contain contaminants (arsenic, lead, mercury) which further endanger life; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that LULAC supports efforts by all citizens working to stop forced medication through the public water system because it violates civil rights; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that LULAC opposes the public policy of fluoridation because it fails to meet legislative intent; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that LULAC demands to know why government agencies entrusted with protecting the public health are more protective of the policy of fluoridation than they are of public health.

Approved this 1st day of July 2011.

Margaret Moran
LULAC National President

[Home](#) | [About Us](#) | [Members](#) | [Programs](#) | [Advocacy](#) | [Events](#) | [Blogs](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

LULAC National Office 1133 19th Street, NW, Suite 1000 Washington, DC 20036 Tel: (202) 833-6130 Fax: (202) 833-6135

© 2011 LULAC Powered by ARCOS | Design by Plus Three





LEAGUE of UNITED LATIN
AMERICAN CITIZENS

LIGA de Ciudadanos Latinos Americanos Unidos (LULAC) **Derechos Civiles Violación relacionada con medicamentos forzoso, 2011**

Compendio (2013) aprobado por Henry Rodriguez LULAC Concilio Zapatista 4383

POR CUANTO, la Liga de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos Unidos es la organización latina más antigua y más grande de la nación, fundada en Corpus Christi, Texas el 17 de febrero 1929 y

CONSIDERANDO que, LULAC en toda su historia se ha comprometido a los principios que los latinos tienen igualdad de acceso a oportunidades en el empleo, la educación, la vivienda y la asistencia sanitaria, y

CONSIDERANDO que, LULAC aboga por el bienestar de, pero no exclusivamente, de los hispanos en todo el país, y

CONSIDERANDO, que el agua potable es una necesidad para la vida, y

CONSIDERANDO, que la finalidad de un servicio público es para abastecer de agua a toda la comunidad que se compone de personas con diferentes problemas de salud, en diferentes etapas de la vida, y de diferente nivel económico, no a la masa por la fuerza medicar a la población, que es una violación de derechos civiles, y

CONSIDERANDO, que la fluoración es la medicación masiva de la población a través del servicio público, y

CONSIDERANDO, que la ciencia actual demuestra que los productos químicos fluoración suponen un mayor riesgo para las subpoblaciones sensibles, incluyendo a los bebés, los ancianos, los diabéticos, los pacientes renales y personas con mal estado nutricional, y

CONSIDERANDO, que las minorías están más afectados por fluoruros, ya que históricamente sufren más la diabetes y la enfermedad renal, y

CONSIDERANDO, que las minorías son desproporcionadamente perjudicados por fluoruros como está documentado por el aumento de las tasas de dental fluorosis (desfiguración y la decoloración de los dientes); y

CONSIDERANDO que el Consejo Nacional de Investigación en 2006 estableció que hay grandes lagunas en la investigación sobre efectos del fluoruro en todo el cuerpo, hecho que contradice las garantías anteriores realizados por funcionarios de salud pública y por los funcionarios electos, que los fluoruros y la fluoración se han investigado exhaustivamente, y

CONSIDERANDO, que el CDC ahora recomienda utilizar el agua no fluorada para la fórmula infantil (si los padres quieren evitar la fluorosis dental - un moteado permanente y la tinción de los dientes), que crea una carga económica para las grandes número de familias, las minorías y de otra manera, y

POR CUANTO, la Liga de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos Unidos (LULAC), fundada en 1929, ha sido históricamente un campeón de los desposeídos y un líder en la lucha por la justicia social y ambiental, y...

CONSIDERANDO, que la Salud y Servicios Humanos de EE.UU. y de la EPA (enero de 2011) han afirmado recientemente el NRC...Los resultados del estudio que los ciudadanos pueden estar ingiriendo demasiado fluoruro y que la exposición es principalmente por beber agua...

POR LO TANTO, SE RESUELVE, que LULAC alaba los esfuerzos de las organizaciones que se oponen a la masa forzado medicamentos de las fuentes de agua potable públicos usando fluoruros que se encuentran, los desechos tóxicos de grado industrial de los subproductos que contener contaminantes (arsénico, plomo, mercurio), que ponen en peligro aún más la vida, y

SE RESUELVE ADEMÁS, que LULAC apoya los esfuerzos de todos los ciudadanos que trabajan para poner fin a la medicación forzada a través del sistema público de agua debido a que viola los derechos civiles y

SE RESUELVE ADEMÁS, que LULAC se opone a la política pública de la fluoración, ya que no cumple intención del legislador, y

SE RESUELVE ADEMÁS, que las demandas de LULAC para saber por qué los organismos gubernamentales encargados de la protección de la salud pública son más estrictas para proteger la política de fluoración de lo que son la salud pública.

Aprobado este primero día de julio de 2011.

Fuente: Violación de Derechos Civiles relacionada con medicamentos forzoso, 2011

Liga de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos Unidos (LULAC)

<http://lulac.org/advocacy/resolutions/2011/resolution_Civil_Rights_Violation_Regarding_Forced_Medication/>

HYDROFLUOSILICIC ACID

AVOID CONTACT WITH
SKIN, EYES, MOUTH &
CLOTHING

AVOID BREATHING
FUMES OR VAPOR



DIRECTIONS FOR WATER FLUORIDATION: Application of this product for water fluoridation is subject to approval of all interested state and local health authorities. Its use should conform to the American Water Works Association's "Statement of Recommended Policy and Procedure."

Exact dosage must not raise the total fluoride concentration in drinking water above 1.5 ppm. (U.S. Public Health Service maximum limit)

DO NOT TAKE INTERNALLY

WARNING

IF MATERIAL IS SPILLED OR RELEASED, NEUTRALIZE WITH LIME AND DISPOSE AS CALCIUM FLUOSILICIC WASTE

SPECIAL PROTECTION INFORMATION: RESPIRATORS APPROVED FOR FLUORINE, RUBBER GLOVES, CHEMICAL GOGGLES AND A PROTECTIVE APRON OR ACID RESISTANT CLOTHING SHOULD BE USED SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN IN HANDLING AND STORING MATERIAL: AVOID STORAGE IN GLASS CONTAINERS.

WHEN MATERIAL IS CONTACTED WITH FIRE, FLUORIDE GAS MAY BE RELEASED. OVEREXPOSURE TO MATERIAL MAY CAUSE CONSTRICTED BREATHING COUGHING, SKIN REDNESS, OR BURNING OF THE THROAT.

ANTIDOTE

SKIN: COPIOUS AMOUNTS OF WATER FOR 15 MINUTES.

INTERNAL: CONTACT PHYSICIAN

OTHER: CONSULT PHYSICIAN IN THE EVENT INGESTION HAS OCCURRED.

GIVE COPIOUS AND REPEATED AMOUNTS OF WATER OR A WEAK SOLUTION OF CALCIUM CHLORIDE