

# Fluoride Testimony

**Note: check your state laws for adult right to refuse medical treatment and informed consent laws for doctors and dentists.**

My name is Jill Hines with Health Freedom Louisiana, and I am here in support of SB4.

Fluoridation is not simply a water treatment practice. It is the addition of a substance intended to affect the human body. The fluoride added to public water systems is not naturally occurring fluoride found in groundwater, but a processed industrial chemical, most commonly fluorosilicic acid or sodium fluorosilicate, captured as a byproduct of phosphate fertilizer manufacturing and repurposed for use in water fluoridation.

When government requires every person in a community to ingest that substance, without individualized consent and without the ability to opt out, it raises serious legal concerns.

Under Louisiana law, the intentional administration of a substance without consent can fall within the definition of battery. Our statutes also recognize that competent adults have the right to make their own medical decisions, including the right to refuse treatment. These protections exist because Louisiana law has long recognized that what is done to a person's body must be voluntary.

We see this principle throughout our medical laws.

Physicians must obtain informed consent before treatment.

Dentists must obtain informed consent before treatment.

Patients must be told the nature of the intervention, the risks, the purpose, and that they have the right to decline.

What makes public water fluoridation especially concerning is that many of the same professional groups that support mandatory fluoridation are asking the state to do something that they themselves are legally prohibited from doing — administer a substance intended to affect the body without the patient's prior, voluntary consent.

**A physician cannot treat a patient without consent.**

**A dentist cannot treat a patient without consent.**

Under Louisiana law, a physician who treats a patient without consent may face civil liability, professional discipline, and in some cases even criminal battery, because the intentional administration of a substance without permission can violate informed-consent statutes and the criminal code. Yet under current law, the state can require exposure for an entire population.

Unlike any other medical treatment, fluoridation provides no ability to control for dose, body weight, age, or health status, meaning every person receives exposure regardless of size, medical condition, or individual need, which is inconsistent with the way any other medicine would normally be administered.

Mandatory fluoridation applies to everyone — infants, adults, pregnant women, the elderly, and those with medical conditions — regardless of individual choice, medical history, or personal beliefs. Bottle fed babies would ingest unknown amounts with every meal.

The only way to avoid exposure is to purchase alternative water, even though public water is used not only for drinking, but for cooking, bathing, and daily living.

Some may compare water fluoridation to enriched foods, but that is not the same principle, because individuals can choose whether or not to purchase enriched foods, while access to public water is often unavoidable. (This argument was used by dentists in LA)

SB4 restores consistency with Louisiana law, respects informed consent, and respects the basic principle that medical interventions should not be imposed on a person without permission.

For these reasons, I respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of SB4.