

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 724

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to clarify that underground injection does not include certain activities, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 25, 1999

Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. SESSIONS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

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## A BILL

To amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to clarify that underground injection does not include certain activities, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. DEFINITION OF UNDERGROUND INJECTION.**

4 Section 1421(d) of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42  
5 U.S.C. 300h(d)) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and  
6 inserting the following:

7 “(1) UNDERGROUND INJECTION.—

1           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘under-  
2 ground injection’ means the subsurface em-  
3 placement of fluids by well injection.

4           “(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘under-  
5 ground injection’ does not include—

6                   “(i) the underground injection of nat-  
7 ural gas for purposes of storage; or

8                   “(ii) the underground injection of  
9 fluids or propping agents pursuant to hy-  
10 draulic fracturing operations for purposes  
11 of reservoir stimulation related to oil or  
12 gas production activities.

13           “(C) REGULATION.—The Administrator  
14 shall possess the sole authority to determine  
15 whether an activity not regulated as under-  
16 ground injection prior to October 11, 1995 shall  
17 be regulated under this section.”.

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