

October 6, 2016

Georgia Governor Nathan Deal
206 Washington Street
111 State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

House Speaker David Ralston
332 State Capitol
Atlanta GA 30334

Copy to: American Water Works Association

RE: Fluoridegate Scandal Documents and Repeal of GA's Water Fluoridation Law

Dear Governor Deal and Speaker Ralston:

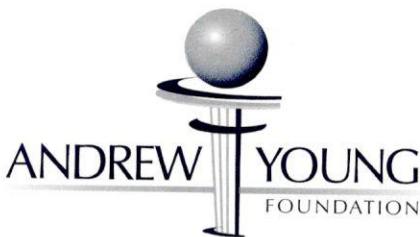
As a person deeply involved in civil and human rights, I am writing to ask for a written response from you in light of the Fluoridegate scandal developing here in Georgia. What's clear to me is that we need a repeal of Georgia's water fluoridation law, and hearings to look into how fluoridation has continued all these years, long after there were plenty of reasons to end it. This is a civil rights issue, and the people have a right to have the full story given to them, rather than highly edited, misleading talking points.

When someone's story keeps changing, there are quite often motivations behind their changed stance that may not be aligned with the best interests of the public. The story offered by water fluoridation promoters keeps changing...and changing...and changing. There are key groups such as seniors, kidney patients, diabetics, communities of color, thyroid patients and people who drink a lot of water due to their occupation that are especially affected by Fluoridegate.

Consider how the story has changed, repeatedly.

- Dentists said there has been extensive research for 60 years on the safety of fluoridation. Now a document from the American Dental Association has surfaced, calling for very basic research on how kidney patients, diabetics, seniors and other groups are affected – topics that should have been settled before fluoridation commenced. So, no, fluoridation was not extensively researched.

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- Discoloration of teeth by fluoride was called a pathologic condition in the American Dental Association's journal. Now it's dismissed by dentists as just a "cosmetic" issue and "barely visible." Strange, isn't it, to go from pathology to inconsequential?
- Dentists said we need to ingest fluoride systemically for it to help prevent cavities, so this was the justification for putting it in drinking water. Now dentists tell us that the primary way fluorides work is topical, when they touch teeth in the mouth. They also said the concentration of fluoride in saliva resulting from fluoride in water is too weak to do much. So why is fluoridation continuing? Are we sacrificing the health and safety of our communities simply because dentists don't want to be embarrassed, or sued?
- Dentists said fluoridation would help level the playing field for minority communities, but now we see in documents publicized by The Lillie Center that African Americans and other groups are actually disproportionately harmed by fluorides causing all forms of dental fluorosis teeth disfigurement. Plus we have more diabetics and kidney patients in African American communities, and they deserve to not be kept in the dark and forced to drink fluorides because the state mandates it.
- Dentists led us to believe fluoridation is highly effective, but dental journals admit that fluorides do very little to prevent cavities where more than 80% occur, in the back molars. Dental journals say it: tooth sealants are dramatically more effective. So, no, once again, we don't need fluoridated water.

I am calling for Fluoridegate hearings, here, in Georgia. And I am calling for a repeal of Georgia's fluoridation law, immediately. I look forward to your written response. I am copying this letter to the American Water Works Association, because I would also like to know what their response is, given the ever-changing story offered to continue fluoridation and the documents that have come to light. Water fluoridation clearly has not stemmed the cavity epidemic in our cities, and millions of people don't know the ways that uncontrolled dosing of fluorides in drinking water can impact them.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Andrew J. Young".

CC: CEO David B. LaFrance, American Water Works Association, 6666 West Quincy Avenue, Denver CO 80235-3098

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