



TED CRUZ LEAVES AMERICANS HIGH & DRY ON WATER ISSUES

CRISIS IN FLINT, MICHIGAN

Sen. Cruz Initially Said That The Water Crisis In Flint Was An “Absolute Outrage.” In February 2016, Sen. Cruz said, “You look at what’s happening in Flint. Flint is an absolute outrage. You’ve got your own government poisoning the citizens. You look at the basic responsibilities of government, making sure our water’s clean is really near the top. I mean, we’re not talking rocket science here. This isn’t even broadband Internet. This is, ‘Don’t have the water coming out of my sink poison me.’” [MSNBC, [2/4/16](#)]

Immediately Afterwards, Sen. Cruz Drew Blamed Democrats By Drawing Parallels To Hurricane Katrina, Citing “Cities [That] Have Been Governed With One-Party Control Of Far-Left Democrats For Decades.” In February 2016, Sen. Cruz said, “You know, there’s an interesting parallel between Flint and New Orleans. Both cities have been governed with one-party government control of far-left Democrats for decades.” [MSNBC, [2/4/16](#)]

In An Effort To Highlight His Anti-Choice Values, Sen. Cruz’ Campaign Would Only Distribute Bottled Water To People At Crisis Pregnancy Centers. In January 2016, Sen. Cruz’s campaign said that the “the campaign had coordinated with anti-abortion group Flint Right to Life to collect water bottles to be distributed only to crisis pregnancy centers in the area. The water is for “expecting moms and moms of little ones,” [Cruz’s Michigan state director Wendy Lynn] Day wrote in a Facebook post soliciting donations.” Day added that donating water to children in Flint “both supports the city and shows ‘the pro-life values of Senator Cruz.’” [Salon, [1/21/16](#); @ChadLivengood Twitter, [1/20/16](#)]

WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES RULE

May 2015: EPA Finalized Clean Water Rule, Aimed At Better Protecting Waters Covered Under The Clean Water Act. In May 2015, the Obama administration finalized the Clean Water Rule, which “ensures that waters protected under the Clean Water Act are more precisely defined and predictably determined, making permitting less costly, easier, and faster for businesses and industry. The rule is grounded in law and the latest science, and is shaped by public input. The rule does not create any new permitting requirements for agriculture and maintains all previous exemptions and exclusions.” [EPA Press Release, [5/27/15](#); What The Clean Water Rule [Does](#); What The Clean Water Rule [Does Not Do](#)]

Sen. Cruz Helped Introduce – And Voted For – Legislation To “Kill” The Clean Water Rule “Entirely.” On November 4, 2015, Sen. Cruz voted for S.J.Res.22, “a bill that would have required the EPA to rewrite its Waters of the United States rule, the Senate voted to advance a measure that would block the rule entirely under the Congressional Review Act.” Under the Congressional Review Act, the bill would “kill the [Clean Water] rule entirely.” Sen. Cruz is an original cosponsor of the legislation, which passed 53-44. [Think Progress, [11/4/15](#); S.J.Res.22, [Vote 297](#), 11/4/15; S.J.Res.22, [9/17/15](#)]

Sen. Cruz Voted To Nullify The Clean Water Rule. On November 3, 2015, Sen. Cruz voted to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to a bill that “would have essentially nullified the Waters of the United States Rule, and created a strict set of guidelines that the agency must follow when re-writing the rule ... The bill set specific guidelines for bodies of water that cannot be regulated by the EPA, like isolated ponds, and would also have required the EPA to consult with private industry, as well as local and state government, in rewriting the rule.” Needed 60 votes to move forward, the cloture motion was rejected 57-41. [Think Progress, [11/3/15](#); S.1140, [11/3/15](#)]