

The Record (Bergen County)

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THE RECORD

Drinking water put at risk?

On April 28, the state Senate Judiciary Committee approved the nomination of Hunterdon Freeholder Robert Walton to the New Jersey Highlands Council despite considerable discussion and opposition. His nomination now goes before the full Senate.

As one of Governor Christie's appointments, Walton was nominated specifically to help accomplish the governor's goal of undermining the Highlands Act.

In December 2009, Robert Walton was quoted in a weekly newspaper as saying he is "diametrically opposed to the Highlands Act." In January 2010, Walton posted on his Facebook wall that "hopefully, the Highlands will be scrapped." As these statements indicate, Walton's appointment can be expected to undermine the council's mission, which is to protect the source of clean water to 5.4 million people in New Jersey.

Erica Van Auken

[Boonton](#), May 4

The writer is campaign and grass-roots coordinator for the New Jersey Highlands Coalition.