



Texas Radiation Advisory Board

Michael Ford, C.H.P.
Chair

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April 17, 2003

The Honorable Talmadge Heflin
Committee on Appropriations
P.O. Box 2910
Austin, TX 78768

Subject: Section 2.33 of HB 2292

Dear Chairman Heflin:

As Chair of the Texas Radiation Advisory Board (TRAB), I have written to Representative Wohlgemuth regarding Section 2.33 of House Bill 2292 which was voted out of your committee today. I have sent a copy to you and the other members also with the full details of my concern.

I believe the amendment will have unintended and serious consequences to the security of radioactive materials because it may create financial hardships on some of the companies currently in business here in Texas. If companies are unable to pay the major fee increase imposed by HB 2292 (three times the annual fee), I am concerned that radioactive materials may be abandoned, creating a serious threat to safety. Examples and details are provided in the enclosed letter.

I would urge your committee to consider the associated health and safety impacts the financial burden may cause. You may contact me at 806-477-5727 if you would like to discuss these or any other radiation issues that our state faces.

Sincerely,
Original signed by:

Michael S. Ford, C.H.P.
Chair