

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 515

To prohibit the importation of certain low-level radioactive waste into the  
United States.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 14, 2009

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee (for himself, Mr. TERRY, Mr. MATHESON, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. COHEN, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. DOYLE, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FILNER, Mr. HILL, Mr. BARROW, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. MELANCON, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. GIFFORDS, Ms. WOOLSEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. WHITFIELD, Mr. WEXLER, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. PITTS, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. BUTTERFIELD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To prohibit the importation of certain low-level radioactive  
waste into the United States.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Radioactive Import  
5 Deterrence Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION OF IMPORTATION.**

2 (a) AMENDMENT.—Chapter 8 of the Atomic Energy  
3 Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2111 et seq.) is amended by add-  
4 ing at the end the following new section:

5 “SEC. 85. IMPORTATION OF LOW-LEVEL RADIO-  
6 ACTIVE WASTE.

7 “a. Except as provided in subsection b. or c., the  
8 Commission shall not issue a license authorizing the im-  
9 portation into the United States of—

10 “(1) low-level radioactive waste (as defined in  
11 section 2 of the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy  
12 Act (42 U.S.C. 2021b)); or

13 “(2) specific radioactive waste streams exempt-  
14 ed from regulation by the Commission under section  
15 10 of the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Act  
16 (42 U.S.C. 2021j).

17 “b. Subsection a. shall not apply to—

18 “(1) low-level radioactive waste being returned  
19 to a United States Government or military facility  
20 which is authorized to possess the material; or

21 “(2) low-level radioactive waste resulting from  
22 the use in a foreign country of nuclear material ob-  
23 tained by the foreign user from an entity in the  
24 United States that is being returned to the United  
25 States for management and disposal.

1       “c. The President may waive the prohibition under  
2 this section and authorize the grant of a specific license  
3 to import materials prohibited under subsection a., under  
4 the rules of the Commission, only after a finding that such  
5 importation would meet an important national or inter-  
6 national policy goal, such as the use of waste for research  
7 purposes. Such a waiver must specify the policy goal to  
8 be achieved, how it is to be achieved, and the amount of  
9 material to be imported.

10       “d. A license not permitted under this section that  
11 was issued before the date of enactment of this section  
12 may continue in effect according to its terms, but may  
13 not be extended or amended with respect to the amount  
14 of material permitted to be imported.”.

15       (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENT.—The table  
16 of contents for the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 is amended  
17 by inserting at the end of the items relating to chapter  
18 8 the following new item:

“Sec. 85. Importation of low-level radioactive waste.”.

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