

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 515

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 3, 2009

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and
Public Works

AN ACT

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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Radioactive Import
3 Deterrence Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION OF IMPORTATION.**

5 (a) AMENDMENT.—Chapter 19 of the Atomic Energy
6 Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2015 et seq.) is amended by in-
7 serting after section 276 the following new section:

8 “SEC. 277. IMPORTATION OF LOW-LEVEL RADIO-
9 ACTIVE WASTE.

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

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

16 “(2) specific radioactive waste streams exempt-
17 ed from regulation by the Commission under section
18 10 of the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Act
19 (42 U.S.C. 2021j).

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

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

24 “(2) low-level radioactive waste resulting from
25 the use in a foreign country of nuclear material ob-
26 tained by the foreign user from an entity in the

1 United States that is being returned to the United
2 States for management and disposal.

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

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

17 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENT.—The table
18 of contents for the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 is amended

- 1 by inserting after the item relating to section 276 the fol-
- 2 lowing new item:

“Sec. 277. Importation of low-level radioactive waste.”.

Passed the House of Representatives December 2,
2009.

Attest: LORRAINE C. MILLER,
Clerk.