

**South Carolina General Assembly**  
117th Session, 2007-2008

**S. 1044**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Concurrent Resolution

Sponsors: Senators Lourie, Leventis, Sheheen, Setzler, Scott, McConnell, Short, Ceips, Jackson and Patterson

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Introduced in the Senate on January 30, 2008

Currently residing in the Senate Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Radioactive waste

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Body</u>	<u>Action Description with journal page number</u>
1/30/2008	Senate	Introduced SJ-8
1/30/2008	Senate	Referred to Committee on <b>Judiciary</b> SJ-8
2/5/2008	Senate	Referred to Subcommittee: Rankin (ch), Ford, Scott, Campbell

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[1/30/2008](#)

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**A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

URGING THE FEDERAL NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION TO DISAPPROVE THE REQUEST TO IMPORT AND DISPOSE OF ITALIAN LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE IN THIS COUNTRY.

Whereas, the disposal of nuclear waste, low-level, as well as more toxic levels, has been an ongoing concern not only in South Carolina but throughout the United States and around the world; and

Whereas, the nuclear waste disposal facility in Barnwell, which has been in place for the past thirty-six years, has been a contentious issue in this State for decades; and

Whereas, on the eve of the Barnwell facility closing to the nation this coming summer, the issue of importing and disposing of foreign radioactive waste has arisen not only as a concern in South Carolina, but also as a concern facing the United States; and

Whereas, Foreign Solutions, Inc., of Utah, which, among other things, operates the Barnwell facility, is seeking approval from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to import twenty thousand tons of Italian low-level radioactive waste through Charleston or New Orleans for processing and disposal in the United States; and

Whereas, Italy, which currently stores its radioactive waste at power plants and other sites throughout Italy, has no permanent repository for this waste, has four closed nuclear power stations and other nuclear facilities with low-level radioactive waste, and for the past number of years has been unable to construct a waste disposal facility due to strong citizen opposition; and

1 Whereas, due to having closed facilities and citizen opposition to  
2 construction of any new facilities, Italy reportedly has no nuclear  
3 waste disposal plan and, according to a 2006 Italian report, is  
4 seeking assistance from other countries to manage different types  
5 of nuclear waste; and

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7 Whereas, the approval being sought from the United States for  
8 disposition of twenty thousand tons of Italy's low-level waste,  
9 which equates to approximately one million cubic feet, is allegedly  
10 a substantial percentage of the waste temporarily stored in Italy  
11 and is believed to be unprecedented in the United States; and

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13 Whereas, transporting tons of nuclear waste through South  
14 Carolina renews issues that our State has struggled with for  
15 decades and raises concern over the potential danger to the people  
16 and environment of South Carolina; and

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18 Whereas, having battled for years over the closure of the Barnwell  
19 facility, South Carolina must stand strong in its opposition to the  
20 importation of foreign waste and the transportation of such waste  
21 through this State; and

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23 Whereas, importation of foreign waste is an issue that not only  
24 South Carolina must strongly resist, but also that the United States  
25 must stand firmly against. As a nation we have our own  
26 challenges in disposing of nuclear waste generated in this country,  
27 and it is incumbent upon us to insist that other countries take  
28 responsibility for the disposal of their own nuclear waste and not  
29 attempt to utilize the United States as a dumping ground; and

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31 Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly  
32 adamantly oppose the importation of low-level radioactive waste  
33 from Italy and the transportation of this waste through South  
34 Carolina for the disposal of such waste in this country. Now,  
35 therefore,

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37 Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives  
38 concurring:

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40 That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this  
41 resolution, urge the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission to  
42 disapprove the request to import and dispose of Italian low-level  
43 radioactive waste in this country.

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Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to each member of the South Carolina Congressional Delegation and to Dale Klein, Chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

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