



**League of Women Voters  
of Texas**

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**TESTIMONY  
HB 4082  
House Committee on Environmental Regulation  
APRIL 29, 2009**

The League of Women Voters of Texas SUPPORTS HB 4082 by Representative Jessica Farrar.

HB 4082 requires that electric generating facilities reduce their emissions of mercury to 10% of the amount they released in 2002. If a facility was not in operation for all or part of 2002, the TCEQ is to estimate what that amount would have been for the entire year.

The TCEQ is to establish administrative penalties for non-compliance including ordering the facility to cease operations.

Mercury can have devastating effects on the central nervous system. It is one of those toxic chemicals that can cause death and is particularly harmful to a developing fetus.

While other efforts are ongoing to reduce mercury levels, this additional approach is one that could work in concert with the need to reduce this particularly toxic chemical.

We encourage you to vote for this bill.