

# Lobby Watch: Health Hypocrisy!

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## ☞ 27 Members of the House “Task Force on Smoking & Health” Vote to Protect Big Tobacco!

## ☞ Task Force’s Co-Chair Delisi Key Vote for Tobacco.

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☐ In an act of hypocrisy which is none too rare among politicians, 27 of the 86 member “Texas Task Force on Smoking & Health” sided with the big tobacco companies and voted for the “trade secrets” amendment to HB119, the Cigarette Ingredients Disclosure Bill, on Tuesday, May 13.

☐ The pro-tobacco amendment offered by Rep. Chisum (R-Pampa), was narrowly approved 65 to 63, making Rep. Diane White Delisi’s vote in support the deciding vote. Delisi (R-Temple), along with HR119’s sponsor, Rep. John Hirschi (D-Wichita Falls), is co-chair of the Texas Task Force on Smoking & Health.

☐ Health advocates objected strongly to the “trade secrets” amendment. Advocates point out that the tobacco companies have a long history of hiding their actions behind the veils of “trade secrets” and “attorney-client privilege.” The Cancer Society says some known chemicals in cigarette smoke include ammonia, cyanide, cadmium, butane, arsenic and formaldehyde. Its no secret why tobacco would want to conceal a list like that.

☐ According to their materials, The Texas Task Force on Smoking & Health is “comprised of legislators committed to preventing tobacco-related death and illness and promoting the health of Texas.”

## **27 Members of the Texas Task Force on Health & Smoking Supporting Big Tobacco.**

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Diane Delisi	Joe Driver	Jerry Madden	John Shields
Dennis Bonnen	Craig Eiland	Kenny Marchant	Todd Smith
Wayne Christian	Judy Hawley	Tommy Merritt	Burt Solomons
Frank Corte	Charlie Howard	Nancy Moffat	Gary Walker
Joe Crabb	Suzanna Hupp	Sue Palmer	George West
Henry Cuellar	Kyle Janek	Elvira Reyna	Thomas Williams
Mary Denny	Ted Kamel	Gene Seaman	