Creating needle-exchange programs would be the Christian thing to do

By WILLIAM MARTIN

The Texas Legislature is currently considering bills that would allow the establishment of programs to enable injecting drug users to exchange used syringes for sterile ones, as a means of reducing the spread of blood-borne diseases.

The Senate version of the bill has already passed, and the House is expected to consider it soon. This is an opportunity that should not be missed.

Sharing coffee with him in his office in Tel Aviv was an instructive lesson in how to operate in a world that is more complicated and even more dangerous than the one we live in.

Farkash, who became head of the military intelligence in the spring of 2002, was aware of one fact: since the founding of the state, six had retired or been fired before finishing their full terms. This is a remarkable statistic.

Each of these leaders had tried to push a particular agenda, but none of them had succeeded. The result: new precision and indirectness, and a greater ability to attack terror targets.

"The traditional anti-terror tactics that Farkash died in the summer of 2004, of a heart attack, while he was still using old tactics to try to manage the world that was radically different — and more successful — than our traditional ways of planning and fighting," Farkash said of his enemies, "We didn't work. In fact, Farkash was one of those people — and the lessons he learned — are important to these programs.

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Energy

To tax or trade is the question in taking on climate change

By GREG EBEL

The climate change debate has focused on the need to limit the "carbon footprint" of energy use. Now that the United States and the world's others have acknowledged in their national commitment to carbon reduction, the question of how to achieve the goals of our economy and promote clean energy is before us. As we work on our own carbon footprint, we must also consider the others.

We should be concerned about the greenhouse gases that do not result from burning fossil fuels. Agriculture, waste management, and deforestation account for about 40 percent of greenhouse gas emissions. These emissions are ignored in the existing proposals to reduce carbon emissions.

The methodology of cap-and-trade is subject to market signals and trade with the proceeds from the carbon tax. However, I believe that the current system of carbon use and trade is not the best solution.

The proposed federal budget has an interesting aspect in that it is essentially a consumption fee on carbon emissions. If an entity wants to emit less carbon, it can purchase a carbon credit from an entity that is already emitting less.

The greenhouse gases are a direct attempt to stop the destruction of the environment. By Ogden is a direct attempt to stop the destruction of the environment. I do not think that this is the best way to proceed. It is a direct attempt to stop the destruction of the environment.

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Open Government

Tax on light, stem cell debate

BY STATE REP. ELLEN COHEN

I was around when this issue (of stem cell research) came before the Board of Education and it’s due to “stem cell weaknesses” of scientific the- ory. Under current law, it continues to attract the kind of attention that I believe does more harm than good. The State Board of Education and the Senate Finance proceedings, along with Senate Budget hearings and the House of Representatives, four meetings to be held in Austin, have acknowledged a fundamental truth about stem cell research: It is a lose- lose situation. It comes with a cost.

But a tax on - cap-and-trade – better stimulates the substantive behavioral shift we need and recognizes the power of em- ployers to inspire change. It’s an equity-neutral proposal that will deliver near- perfect carbon reduction at a cost that’s lower than that of any other proposal. This is our chance to prevent the loss of life that might occur if we do not act. This is our chance to provide a market signal to those who are not being paid a fair price for their emissions.

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