



Tobacco Institute Newsletter

INFORMING THE INDUSTRY OF NEWSWORTHY DEVELOPMENTS

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Washington

REPS. WAXMAN (D-Calif.) and Dingell (D-Mich.) introduced bill to amend Federal Cigarette Labeling and Advertising Act to allow some small manufacturers and brands to display four warning labels required in Oct. (NL 381) on an equal basis over 12 months, rather than quarterly rotation.

At health subcomm. hearing, Federal Trade Comm.'s Carol Crawford said FTC would support legislation approving simultaneous display plans and noted this could be helpful in ensuring that all brands display all four warnings.

Coalition on Smoking OR Health's Matt Myers testified in favor of the bill, but said COSH would object to any effort to expand the scope of the bill beyond those manufacturers with a small percentage of domestic market share.

MEANWHILE, FTC APPROVED PLAN, submitted by five of the six major cigarette manufacturers, for quarterly rotation of the new warning labels with 15-day grace period in changing from one warning to another, Washington Post says.

Liggett & Myers continues push for simultaneous display, claiming it would be burdened by printing costs because it produces more than 200 brands, Louisville Courier-Journal reports.

REP. SYNAR (D-OKLA.) and three co-sponsors introduced bill to require labels on packages and advertising for smokeless tobacco products, warning of mouth cancer, oral problems and addiction.

SEN. STEVENS (R-Alaska) sent letter to fellow senators asking support for "Non-Smokers Rights Act of 1985" [not introduced at press time] authorizing govt. administrators to limit smoking in federal buildings to designated areas.

Draft bill includes Congressional findings that "numerous studies have shown second-hand smoke to be a significant health hazard; recent court decisions recognize an emerging right of employees to work in a smoke-free environment; and, smoking results in increased costs to employers and the public in the form of more frequent absenteeism by employees who smoke and higher costs for health insurance, fire insurance, life insurance, and workers' compensation."

July 16, 1985

FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS has proposed issuing guidelines for wardens to use in establishing smoking/nonsmoking areas within penal institutions, with disciplinary penalties for failure to observe posted smoking restrictions. Written comment period ends Aug. 19 and no hearings are planned.

FIVE NEW CO-SPONSORS signed on Sen. Mitchell (D-Maine) bill to establish indoor air quality research program at Environmental Protection Agency (NL 384), for total of seven co-sponsors.

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMM. approved \$1.5 billion fiscal 1986 operating budget for EPA, including \$2.5 million for research on indoor air pollution.

REP. GAJAR (D-Ohio) again has 13 co-sponsors for bill eliminating cigarette tax sunset (NL 384), with addition of Rep. Ackerman (D-N.Y.).

THREE MORE CO-SPONSORS signed on Rep. Pease (D-Ohio) bill to amend Social Security Act to include funding from cigarette tax (NL 382); new total of four co-sponsors.

SEN. HELMS (R-N.C.), along with nine co-sponsors, introduced "Tobacco Program Improvement Act." Bill provides for cigarette manufacturers' buyout of tobacco loan association inventories, with lowered price support level for flue-cured and burley tobacco. Manufacturers would split no-net-cost assessment 50/50 with farmers and have input on marketing quotas.

NATL. INST. ON DRUG ABUSE director William Pollin resigned after six years of service; Jerome Jaffe, head of NIDA's Addiction Research Center, is acting director.

PRESIDENT REAGAN NOMINATED Terrence Scanlon as chairman of Consumer Product Safety Comm. and announced intention to nominate Anne Graham as CPSC commissioner, Bureau of Natl. Affairs says. Scanlon has served as chairman since recess appointment in Jan., while Graham now holds post of asst. secy. for legislation and public affairs at Dept. of Education.

Legislation

IN OREGON, WORKPLACE and jury room smoking restriction bills died at adjournment. Louisiana house defeated govt.-owned buildings measure. And companion bills to restrict retail store/public places smoking died at adjournment in S.C.

But Fla. gov. signed "clean indoor air act" requiring workplace policies, restaurant signs and retail store curbs.

LOCALLY...Clayton, Mo., council defeated broad workplace measure. In Colo., Aspen council rejected restaurant/store/public places ban, but Colo. Springs council okayed move to put restrictions on

Aug. referendum ballot. Worcester, Mass., council killed restaurant ordinance and Needham health board tabled restaurant measure until Sept.

Honolulu mayor signed bill banning smoking in most public places on Oahu; violators face police removal and \$5 fine. And Newport Beach, Calif., approved broad ordinance.

At D.C. smoking restriction hearing, Bakery, Confectionary and Tobacco Workers Internatl. Union rep testified against measure, along with business owner who told city council, "This bill would have an adverse impact on productivity in businesses."

N.Y. Mayor Koch has asked city's 15,000 restaurants to impose voluntary smoking restrictions, calling approach "more appropriate" than mandatory measures. "I believe there are limits as to what government should do," Koch told New York Times.

Two ordinances to restrict public smoking will be on Nov. ballot in Tucson.

N.Y. ASSEMBLY APPROVED legislation, by 87-53 vote, to require smokeless tobacco packages to carry warning label: "Use of this product is dangerous to your health. It may cause oral cancer or other diseases of the mouth, and may be habit forming." And N.J. senate voted 38-0 in favor of similar warning label measure.

Mass. public health dept. ruled containers of snuff sold after Dec. 1 must have labels warning of addiction, oral cancer and mouth diseases. Ruling does not affect chewing tobacco.

OREGON SAMPLING BAN proposal died at adjournment.

IN OHIO, senate bill would ban sale, manufacture or use of clove cigarettes or tobacco products containing clove ingredients; two clove bills are under consideration in the house.

Taxes

MINN. GOV. SIGNED 5-cent hike bill which includes provision to pick up any amount of federal sunset. Rhode Island gov. signed two bills: an outright .4-cent increase and state budget bill including 8-cent contingency hike. Conn., New Hampshire and Okla. gov. signed sunset contingency bills. Oregon 8-cent hike, effective Oct. 1, includes floor stock tax provision. And Wisc. gov. is expected to sign contingency tax bill, passed by Legislature at end of June after voting down outright 3-cent hike amendment. Illinois legislature passed contingency provision in school funding bill.

Delaware contingency bill died at adjournment.

July 16, 1985

New 8-cent hike bill introduced in Ohio, with 2 cents earmarked to cancer research. And new Mich. bill would increase tax 8 cents on Jan. 1.

BLACK CONSUMERS AND THE POOR bear a proportionately heavier tax burden than other users of tobacco products, according to study on impact of tobacco taxes by East Carolina Univ. Prof. V. Glenn Chappell, Kinston (N.C.) Daily Free Press reports. "Higher taxes don't reduce smoking, they only reduce the income of the poor," Chappell concludes.

In Court

TRIAL DATES IN SEPT. and Dec. have been set for several cancer-liability cases against cigarette manufacturers, Barron's reports, but TI has been allowed to withdraw in two cases because of insufficient proof that it distributed "false, fraudulent and misleading information" regarding effects of smoking.

Meanwhile, at urging of Tobacco Products Liability Project (NL 383), three new lawsuits seeking \$17 million in damages against cigarette manufacturers and TI were announced at Boston news conference, UPI says.

IN LETTER TO New England Journal of Medicine (6/27), Harvard's Dr. Michael Charney comments, "This litigation strategy unites the three factors most effective in limiting cigarette consumption: increased cigarette price, negative publicity for tobacco, and social opposition to smoking" and he urges doctors to recommend such lawsuits.

SPEAKERS AT CONFERENCE on epidemiology and the law encouraged attorneys to use epidemiological data as evidence to increase coherence in outcome of toxic tort litigation, Occupational Safety & Health Reporter says. Some participants cited smoking as example of confounding factor which could influence risks of various diseases.

Nonsmoker Issue

SURVEY OF OFFICE SMOKING ISSUES, conducted by Environetics Internatl., reveals corporations are reluctant to separate workers according to smoking preferences because of costs, flexibility and staff management problems. An executive summary of the survey and the full report are available from TI's Production Services dept.

Industry

NICK BUONICONTI has been named to new post of president and chief operating officer, U.S. Tobacco. Louis Bantle remains chairman and chief executive officer.

Health Organizations

AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S "Great American Smokeout" is set for Nov. 21. TV star Larry Hagman serves again as national spokesman and will appear in year-round anti-smoking ad campaign with his mother, actress Mary Martin, according to USA Today.

"HEART AT WORK," new American Heart Assn. campaign, will enlist employers to encourage people to stop smoking, eat wisely and exercise regularly, AP says.

VIDEOTAPE PROGRAM, designed for home or workplace use, is part of new American Lung Assn. smoking cessation effort, Smoking and Health Reporter notes.

Research

EUGENOL--THE MAJOR COMPONENT OF CLOVES--can be lethal to animals when administered directly into the lung, according to independent study by American Health Foundation, Los Angeles Times (6/18) reports.

SMOKERS MAY BE AT LOWER RISK of ulcerative colitis but ex-smokers have higher risk than nonsmokers, according to results of two case-control studies presented at American Federation for Clinical Research meeting, Medical World News (6/10) reports.

WOMEN WHO SMOKE are nearly five times as likely as nonsmokers to have mutant cells in the cervix, according to study of 78 women, half of whom were smokers, presented at Univ. of N.C. epidemiology conference, AP reports.

COMPARISON OF 18 SMOKERS' and 16 matched nonsmokers' lungs at autopsy found smoking-associated increase in aluminum and silicon levels in heavy smokers, Archives of Environmental Health (3-4/85) reports. Researchers noted possible inhibition of pulmonary clearance mechanisms among smokers.

PEOPLE WHO DIE FROM ALCOHOL-RELATED causes lose average of 12 years of potential life, compared with two years lost for heart disease and four for cancer, say Natl. Inst. on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism researchers in ADAMHA News (6/85).

Foreign

FULL-COLOR, EXPLICIT WARNING LABELS now required on all cigarettes sold in Iceland (NL 374) have prompted threats by cigarette producers to halt deliveries to the country, Reuters reports.

CRITICIZING TOUGH AUSTRALIAN cigarette warning labels, required on July 1, 1986 (NL 384), Geelong, Victoria, Advertiser editorial says, "Should tobacco companies be forced by government, which is only too willing to derive revenue from the product, to denigrate their own product in advertising? It is difficult not to come to the conclusion that governments are being hypocritical in their approach."

FOUR OF CANADA'S twelve provinces raised cigarette taxes in April, Tobacco Reporter says. Quebec's taxes rose from 25 cents (Canadian) to 90 cents, while increases in other provinces ranged from 10 to 12 cents per pack of 25 cigarettes.

THOUSANDS OF ISRAELI SMOKERS stormed the gates of the nation's only cigarette factory and police were required to break up fights and keep the crowd from crashing through the barbed wire fence, AP reports. Riot followed a shutdown prompted by govt. price controls which caused cigarettes to replace dollars as the leading black market commodity, the wire said.

Media

"THE HEATED CAMPAIGN to ban cigarette smoking has gone too far. Believers in personal liberty should be wary of the anti-smoking zealots and their propaganda; their campaign is based on hysteria," writes retired thoracic surgeon Dermont W. Melick in Albany Times Union column. He concludes, "Everyone should have the right to choose. Those who don't like tobacco smoke can stay away from wherever it may be wafted about. But prohibiting others from smoking approaches dictatorship."

NEWSPAPER GUILD SURVEY shows newspapers are increasingly adopting policies restricting smoking, according to Wall Street Journal.

People

FORMER PRESIDENT CARTER and wife Rosalynn will take on the tobacco industry, gun lobby and "right-to-lifers" in their new book, "Death by Choice," which addresses the six greatest causes of injury and premature death in the U.S., Seattle Post-Intelligencer reports.

Carter has also issued invitations to a Sept. symposium at Emory Univ. to explore cooperative approaches to tobacco production, distribution and consumption issues.

Miscellany

"SMOKING IS SLOWLY BECOMING a lower-socio-economic problem," says John Pinney (NL 371), director of Harvard's Inst. for Study of Smoking Behavior and Policy, in page one Wall Street Journal article. Paper cites Centers for Disease Control study showing smoking declines with each level of education. Half of blue collar men smoke, compared with 26 percent of men in professional and technical fields, the study notes; black men smoke more than white men, but white and black women have similar smoking rates.

WIDELY ADVERTISED N.Y. anti-smoking clinic is using drugs which allegedly can cause hazardous side effects, New York says. Patients at the Bachynsky Longevity Inst. are paying from \$150 to \$495 for injections of scopolamine and atropine to block nervous system reactions to nicotine, the magazine reports.