

THE TOBACCO INSTITUTE, INC.

1776 K STREET, NORTHWEST WASHINGTON, D. C. 20006 (202) 296-8434

March 3, 1976

MEMORANDUM

To: Roger L. Mazingo Field Director - State Activities
From: Raymond A. Oliverio Northeast Area Manager
Re: Proposed No Smoking Ordinance in Cranston, Rhode Island.

I wanted you to know how invaluable the first contact by Lorillard was in the current struggle in Cranston, Rhode Island.

This is the result of our having one company representative (Lorillard) identified in Cranston -- who alerted Art Stevens who in turn alerted us -- and points up what the Industry Support System can do and why I think it should be broadened.

I first saw the copy of Art Stevens' letter to Leo Weber on February 12, 1976 in Washington, D.C. After talking with Mr. Stevens on that same date, I contacted Leo Weber directly. I asked Leo Weber to try and determine the status of the ordinance, the number of councilmen in Cranston and their names, and asked if he knew any of them. I also asked him the names of the distributors in the Cranston area any other allies that he knew of. I also requested that if he could provide me any background on Edward Di Prete, the committee chairman drawing up the ordinance, that this would be helpful.

I then talked to six distributors (see attached list) in the Providence - Cranston area and appraised them of the proposed ordinances and asked them similar questions about people that I could contact.

Further, I involved in addition to Lorillard, three other cigarette manufacturers -- R.J. Reynolds, Philip Morris, and Liggett & Myers, Inc. All of these people worked behind the scenes and provided me with names of people to contact as potential allies.

I also talked to the President of the Rhode Island Restaurant Association and the President of the Food Service Association and three restaurant owners. During this time, I received a copy of Di Prete's letter to the city council president which listed all the 17 individuals who spoke in favor of the ordinance and the specifics of the proposed ban.

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I then had one of the distributors talk to Aldo Freda, House Majority Whip and he did some checking for us. His assessment was that Cranston is a Republican town and that we should try to get a Republican to look into this.

Rico Campanella, Chairman of the Republican State Committee, was contacted and he agreed to have dinner over the weekend with Cranston Mayor James L. Taft, Jr. Campanella did have dinner with the Mayor and the Mayor said that the ordinance was very weak but he would try to just have it introduced on Monday, February 23, 1976 and sent to committee rather than having a vote on it as Di Prete had wanted.

On Monday night, February 23, the city council tabled the ordinance proposal and scheduled another hearing on it on March 11, 1976.

Conclusion:

The thrust of all this activity is significant, I think, in this respect:

1. The committee had already held two meetings, and one hearing of this ordinance before we were ever aware of it. The first meeting was December 11, 1975. There was a public hearing on January 20, 1976 at which 17 people spoke in favor of the ordinance and only one person being opposed. The third and final meeting took place on January 29, 1976. We didn't find out about the ordinance until February 12, 1976 as a result of Leo Weber's noticing a newspaper article on the smoking ban dated February 2, 1976.
2. Even so, with a week of activity, we were successful in having the city council on Monday, February 23, 1976 table the ordinance (instead of voting on it) and schedule another public hearing on March 11, 1976.
3. We are continuing to stay on top of the issue and planning our new strategy now in preparation for the hearing on March 11, 1976.

R. A. O.

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Raymond Oliverio
Northeast Area Manager

March 3, 1976

People Contacted re: Proposed Cranston No-Smoking Ordinance

Cigarette Companies

Art Stevens	Lorillard	New York
Leo Weber	Lorillard	Providence
Jim Dowdell	RJR	Winston-Salem
George Johnson	RJR	Massachusetts
John Thibeault	RJR	Rhode Island
Frank Hurlbrink	L&M	New England
Max Berkowitz	Philip Morris	(on vacation until March 1)
Ed Grefe	Philip Morris	New York
Tom Ianetti	Philip Morris	Rhode Island
Jerry Giardina	Philip Morris	Rhode Island

Distributors

Louis Russo	Russo Bros.	Pawtucket, Rhode Island
Ed Costello	Costello Bros.	Providence, Rhode Island
Dick Costello	"	"
Louis Giso	Giso Bros.	Cranston, Rhode Island
Robert Boudreau	A & R Wholesale	Bristol, Rhode Island
Bob Catlin	Harex, Inc.	East Providence
Earl Boisclair	Rowe Vending	Rhode Island (largest in Rhode Island)

Other Allies

Jed Hanley - President of R.I. Restaurant Assn. and owns "Fore & Aft" restaurant in Warren, R.I.

Lawrence Procopio - President of Food Service Assn. and owns "Palms" restaurant in East Providence.

Bill De Angelis - Twin Oaks Restaurant - owner - Cranston, R.I.
(He as on committee that drafted this ordinance -- said he could not see any harm in it)

Politicians

Aldo Freda	Rhode Island	House Whip
John DeLuca	Cranston	City Councilman
George DiMuro	Cranston	City Councilman
James L. Taft, Jr.	Cranston	Mayor
Rico Campanella		Attorney & Chairman of Republican State Committee

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Page 4
March 3, 1976

Post Script: I attempted to contact Dennis Roberts, II, who is the Tax Council lobbyist in Rhode Island and whose uncle is a former Governor of Rhode Island, but he was on vacation.

R.A.O.

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A. J. SIMONS

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