

May 8, 1992

MEMORANDUM

TO: James Savarese  
Tom Donahue, Jr.

FROM: Susan Stuntz *SM?*

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I understand that the Teamsters in Massachusetts are pressing the Massachusetts State AFL-CIO to reconsider its resolution opposing the cigarette tax initiative and have in fact gone so far as to suggest that they will introduce a resolution this September calling for support of the ballot measure.

I know what the Teamster problem is and why it is occurring. What I don't know is what impact such a resolution would have on the position statement approved last year. Are things headed toward neutrality or "no position?" At what point should this problem -- or potential problem -- be reported to TI's Management Committee?

I continue to be concerned that the picture is not as rosy as has been painted for McAdam, and as he has subsequently reported to the companies. A case in point is the report yesterday that the CTJ study for Massachusetts is still at least four weeks away -- this information coming three weeks after the report on April 15 that the goal was to have it done in time for the Murray-Gompers-Meany meeting May 21-22.

With slippage that was just reported yesterday, that means that the document will not be ready in time for the Murray-Gompers-Meany meeting that is now in 12 days. And that's the last statewide gathering of labor folks until after Labor Day.

Your March 6 memorandum indicates that you were embarking on a series of spring briefings "to educate labor leaders and union members" on the excise tax issue, and involving a "fact sheet and other appropriate materials which explain our issue and the tax fairness theme from a labor perspective, and tailored to Massachusetts specifically." These, too, were to be used in these spring briefings. With Memorial Day ... and the unofficial start of summer ... two weeks away, I am concerned that none of this activity is underway with spring almost behind us. It is not clear from the list of local labor bodies whether in fact any appearances have been scheduled for May or June.

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The TI Management Committee meets May 20. The State Activities group meets the day before. I will be expected to report on progress at that time and hope I will have concrete answers to my questions, and materials, in time for those reports.

cc: Martin Gleason  
Cal George  
Richard Marcus  
James Moeller