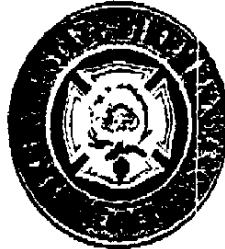


Virginia State Firemen's Association

ORGANIZED DECEMBER 8, 1898

FOR THE PEOPLE'S GOOD

INCORPORATED FEBRUARY 14, 1907



April 20, 1989

The Honorable Frederick Boucher
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Boucher:

The Virginia State Firemen's Association wishes to express its unqualified support for H.R. 673, legislation you have sponsored to implement the recommendations of a federal panel charged with identifying ways of making cigarettes more fire safe.

We shall encourage all Members of the Virginia Congressional delegation to support your bill as well as its companion in the Senate, S. 732.

Other legislation--notably H.R. 293 and S. 17--ignores the panel's scientific work and recommendations and therefore does not, in our view, deal with this matter in a serious enough fashion.

Finding ways to make a fire safe cigarette is an extremely important task. It is conducted best at the federal level where the necessary expertise and resources exist. We urge you and all of Congress to allow this work to proceed at once.

Sincerely,

Richard Harris
First Vice President

cc: Virginia Congressional Delegation