



Fire Department

William Stamm,
Chief

Richard P. Seiler,
Assistant Chief

October 11, 1983

This letter was sent to the following:

Senator Robert W. Kasten, Jr.
Senator William Proxmire
Congressman James P. Moody
Congressman F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Congressman Clement J. Zablocki

This letter is to inform you of a special committee formed by the International Association of Fire Chiefs regarding the bills presented on self-extinguishing cigarettes.

At a recent meeting the fire chiefs were going to support a bill on self-extinguishing cigarettes until we thought of the problems that might occur if these cigarettes would be mandatory. Some of us have strong feelings that more matches might be accessible to children, and we also have a great concern for senile people having to light their cigarettes more often, both of which could result in more fire deaths. We also are of the opinion that with incomplete combustion might come more tar and nicotine in the cigarette, which appears to be the killer from a medical standpoint.

To make a decision as to whether we have enough research to intelligently support a bill, I have gathered a committee of top men from around the country who have all done research and have gathered an abundance of statistics in their various fields.

I'm enclosing a copy of the Charge to the Committee which is self-explanatory and would hope that before any legislation is passed, this committee would be contacted relative to their expertise and findings.

This committee will meet in New York City on November 16 ~~1983~~ and will bring together all of the information available relative to self-extinguishing cigarettes, and will decide at that time as to whether there is enough material to make a decision or whether more research will have to be done in certain fields.

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In any case, we have strong feelings that the fire service should be involved in any decision concerning fire-related problems.

I'm also enclosing a list of names and addresses of the committee members.

If there is any further information you might need, don't hesitate to call the undersigned.

Respectfully,

WILLIAM STAMM
Chief

WS:mh
Encs.

NOTE: On October 25, 1983 this letter was sent to the following:

Senator Danforth	Congressman Lehman (Fla.)
Senator Heinz	Congressman Mikulski
Congressman Furlon (Calif.)	Congressman Miller (Calif.)
Congressman Aspin	Congressman Mitchell
Congressman Bedell	Congressman Moorley
Congressman Brown (Calif.)	Congressman Murphy
Congressman Collins	Congressman Oberstar
Congressman Conrada	Congressman Obey
Congressman Edgar	Congressman Owens
Congressman Fauntroy	Congressman Patterson
Congressman Frank	Congressman Petri
Congressman Gunderson	Congressman Roth
Congressman Jacobs	Congressman Schumer
Congressman Kastenmeier	Congressman Smith (Fla.)
	Congressman Stark
	Congressman Vento
	Congressman Whittaker
	Congressman Wilson
	Congressman Wise
	Congressman W. Pat

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