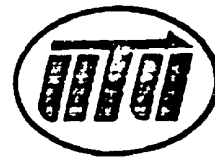


United Transportation Union



NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATIVE BOARD

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State Legislative Director
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.....

A. L. Comes, # 212, Secretary

February 9, 1982

MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION TO:

SENATE 2400 (Johnson, et al.)
ASSEMBLY 2746 (Grannis, Hevesi, Levy)

The United Transportation Union, representing 16,000 rail-road employees in the State of New York, would like to voice its strong opposition to A2746 (Grannis) and/or S2400 (Johnson), the "Clean Indoor Air" act for the following reasons:

The bill would put extreme economic pressures on many people in various areas of the State. Personal habits should not be legislated and would only create an undesirable governmental action. The decision to establish such areas must be left to owners whose patronage depends upon meeting the needs of their customers. It would impose unreasonable restrictions on the use of many public places and create another bureaucratic agency that would burden the taxpayers, and would eventually result in higher prices and taxes.

The bill is not only an invasion of individual privacy, but would be very costly. It is not practical and not realistically enforceable and any attempts to do so would be nothing but harassment to the thousands of people in this state who enjoy smoking. It would create chaotic conditions. Those people against smoking have learned to avoid places or facilities where the air is uncomfortable to them. This has been inflated into an unnecessarily controversial issue. All these years we have survived without such a law. It is essentially one group trying to impose its will and social code on another.

Our police forces are undermanned at the present time. There aren't enough police to enforce the laws we presently have. We don't need to put additional, unnecessary burdens on them. With courts jammed and their calendars backlogged they have more important crimes and cases to handle than one which is unfair. It should be the people's choice not law. If this law goes into affect more people will stay at home resulting in a continued economic recession with inflationary prices.

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MEMORANDUM IN OPPOSITION TO

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It will require some individuals to act as policemen resulting in dissension between many and the relocation of such machines as typewriters, copy machines, desks, etc., just for the smoking habits of some employees, thus causing an unreasonable disruption of daily work habits.

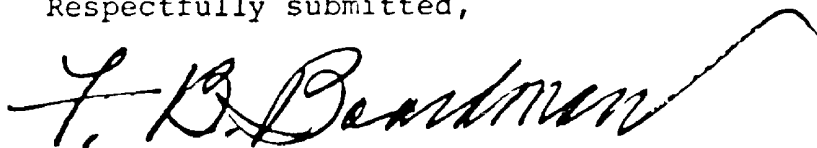
If enacted into law, its enforcement would only be half-hearted, resulting in it being another unfair law.

Many smoke cigarettes to relax and our railroad men work hard, as do others, and after their trip enjoy a casual smoke. Many people will forget this law and be forced to pay the stiff penalties imposed.

It would cut down on the amount of people who travel by train, if they can't smoke, resulting in a loss of jobs for many railroaders. For centuries we have gotten along without such a law and the majority would still like this practice to continue.

For this and other reasons the United Transportation Union is opposed to this bill.

Respectfully submitted,



F. B. Boardman
State Legislative Director
United Transportation Union

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