

March 26, 1986

The Honorable Robert Packwood
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Packwood:

The Latino Peace Officers Association takes a keen interest in legislative matters affecting the well being of the Law Enforcement and Hispanic Communities.

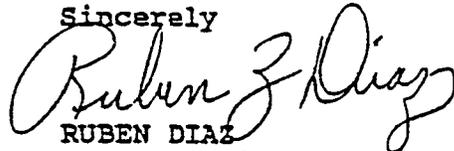
We are opposed to the provisions within your tax plan that propose to increase excise taxes on products like tobacco, gasoline and diesel fuel, alcoholic beverages and others as a means of raising revenue to offset the federal budget deficit. In addition, your proposal to discontinue allowing the business community to claim excise taxes as business related expenses will adversely impact the consumer as the added cost will eventually be passed down.

Senator Packwood, even though your proposed legislation in general is comparable to that proposed by the House, your excise tax increases and their exemption as business related expenses makes your proposed tax legislation regressive and discriminatory toward the disadvantaged consumer; which includes a significant percentage of the Hispanic population.

We urge you to consider the negative impact that this legislation will have on Hispanic communities and Hispanic businesses; just when our citizens are beginning to enjoy the benefits of recently lowered prices on gasoline and oil products.

The Latino Peace Officers Association applauds your efforts to curtail the budget deficit and strongly supports your intentions, however, this should not be accomplished at the expense of those who least can afford it. We will continue to follow committee activities. Please let us know if we can be of any assistance.

Sincerely



RUBEN DIAZ
State President
Latino Peace Officers
Association

cc: Honorable Alan Cranston
Honorable Pete Wilson

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