

February 2, 1987

MEMORANDUM

To: Walter Woodson  
From: Susan Stuntz *JS*  
Re: Labor Position on Public Smoking Legislation

---

In his January 27 letter, John Rupp suggests that your field staff and legislative counsel need an update on the current labor position regarding workplace laws. Nothing much has changed since the February 1986 resolution passed by the AFL-CIO in Bal Harbour. Another copy of that resolution is attached; I note that many of the unions in New York referred to it in their memoranda of opposition to the Koch proposal.

The resolution does not directly reference ETS. The only labor position on that issue is in the December 16, 1986, response from five labor unions to the Surgeon General's report. A copy of that statement, too, is attached.

In general, labor opposes workplace smoking legislation, although it does not necessarily oppose a workplace smoking ban, so long as such a ban is in line with the wishes of the local union. The unions believe that better ventilation is the key to solving most ETS-related complaints; most have taken no position as to whether ETS represents a health hazard to nonsmokers.

Hope this helps. Let me know if you need more.

Attachments

cc: Peter Sparber  
John Rupp, Esq.

TIOK 0021709