

THE TOBACCO INSTITUTE

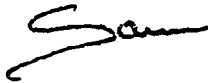
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SAMUEL D. CHILCOTE, JR.
President

April 8, 1986

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Executive Committee

FROM: Samuel D. Chilcote, Jr. 

In response to a majority of his fellow Senators and members of his own tax-writing committee, Senator Packwood has agreed to hold one day of hearings on excise taxes April 21.

We encourage the chief corporate executive officers of member companies to request an opportunity to testify.

Written requests to testify against the excise tax proposals must be received by the Senate Finance Committee no later than noon Friday, April 11. The person to contact is Ms. Betty Scott-Boom, Senate Committee on Finance, 219 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510.

Requests should specify that the witness wishes to testify against the excise tax proposal. If you need any assistance, please contact The Institute.

The Institute has already requested time to testify. In addition, some 17 economists in states with Members on the Senate Finance Committee are now in the process of requesting to be heard. deSeve Economics, which prepared a study critiquing the Packwood tax proposal, has also requested time.

Following is a list of other individuals and/or organizations expected to ask time to testify:

Industry Groups:

National Association of Tobacco Distributors - Terry Burns.
Retail Tobacco Dealers of America - Malcolm Fleischer.
National Automatic Merchandisers Association.
Smokeless Tobacco Council - Michael Kerrigan.
Cigar Association of America - Norman Sharp.

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National Association of Convenience Stores.
Amusement and Music Operators of America.
Hawaii Food Industry Council.

In addition, every state tobacco distributor association is writing the committee for time to testify. Allied groups in Sen. Packwood's home state, have been particularly active in seeking time. They include: Oregon Beer and Wine Distributors Association, Oregon Auto Dealers Association, Oregon Gasoline Dealers Association, Oregon Trucking Association, and the Association of Oregon Industry.

Government Officials and Organizations:

Martha Lane Collins, Governor of Kentucky.
Jim Martin, Governor of North Carolina.
National Governors Association.
U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Labor/Minorities/Veterans:

Citizens for Tax Justice - David Wilhelm, executive director.
Labor-Management Committee affiliates being contacted.
AFL-CIO.
League of United Latin American Citizens - Joe Trevino, executive director.
Mexican American Grocers Association.
United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.
American GI Forum.
Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.
California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.
Noncommissioner Officers Association.

We understand that a number of Members of Congress are interested in appearing before the Senate Finance Committee. Dr. Norman Ture, director of the Institute for Research on the Economics of Taxation, will be encouraged to testify.

Finally, farm groups in states growing tobacco, grain and hops, and grapes are also being encouraged to request time.

Please contact us if you have any suggestions regarding additional witnesses.

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cc: TI Senior Staff