

February 12, 1994

Mark Brown, Director
Department of Labor & Industries
PO Box 44001
Olympia, Washington 98504-4001

Dear Mark,

We, the undersigned labor representatives of the Indoor Air Quality Standard Advisory Committee, are deeply concerned with your recent announcement that all the recommendations of the committee, with the exception of smoking restrictions, have been deferred. We are especially disappointed that the Advisory Committee was not given an opportunity to provide input on this unilateral decision. We were told by staff that the Advisory Committee would meet to review the suggestions and comments made at the six public hearings held on the draft standard. This element of the process was announced at the public hearings.

The Advisory Committee spent many hours going over every aspect of the IAQ issue. The draft standard addressed the issue in a comprehensive fashion. Your decision to focus solely on smoking restrictions addresses less than 5% of the IAQ problems currently in the workplace. For example, your department received dozens of complaints and comments from state employees on IAQ problems at OB 2, Plum St. offices, etc. As you are aware, smoking has been banned in these buildings since Governor Gardner's Executive Order was implemented.

With respect to "voluntary" efforts to improve IAQ conditions, we feel that is reaffirmation of the status quo. We have no assurances that employers and building owners will implement proper prevention or maintenance standards.

In summary, we would urge you to delay any final decision on any IAQ standard until such time the Advisory Committee can review the information presented at the public hearings and complete the established process that your department outlined.

Sincerely,

Mark DeMonbrun
by *gmv*

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Wa. St. Council of Stationary Engineers

Jerald F. Kinsley
Sheet Metal Workers International Union

Tam Tocher *TT (304)*

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