



Fire Department

William Stamm
Chief

Richard P. Seeien
Assistant Chief

October 25, 1983

Mr. Horace Kornegay
Chairman, Tobacco Institute
1875 "I" Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear Mr. Kornegay:

In September of 1983 at the International Association of Fire Chiefs conference, the question was raised as to whether we should formally support the "Cigarette Safety Act" bill H.R. 1880 as proposed by Congressman Moakley.

Some of us, as fire chiefs, were concerned that the introduction of self-extinguishing cigarettes might increase chances of starting fires because of the need to have more matches convenient for relighting cigarettes accessible to children, elderly and infirmed people having to constantly light a cigarette, and because of a letdown on the carefulness of smokers who may think the new product is totally safe.

We in the fire service certainly want to reduce fire deaths, but must be reasonably sure that any proposed cure wouldn't do more harm than good.

I was appointed to chair a committee for the International Association of Fire Chiefs on self-extinguishing cigarettes, and have selected five other members as indicated on the enclosed sheet.

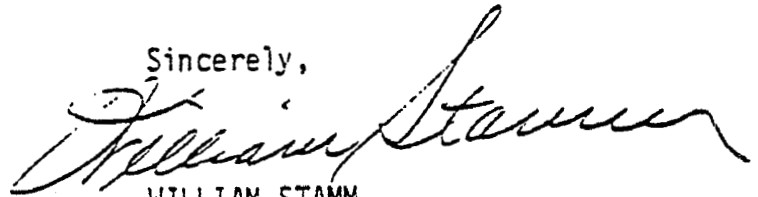
In the most recent issue of the Minnesota Fire Chief magazine, an article appeared which made some very definite points against the tobacco industry in its approach to the self-extinguishing cigarette, and inasmuch as our committee is charged with the research on this, I would appreciate an immediate response from your organization, either refuting or agreeing with the various statements made in the article with substantiating evidence of facts and statistics.

Mr. Horace Kornegay
Chairman, Tobacco Institute

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I have been informed by the editor of the Minnesota Fire Chief magazine that this article was copied from the Illinois Fire Chief magazine, and that they had gotten the information from a Mr. Andy McGuire, Executive Director of the Burn Council in California.

Sincerely,



WILLIAM STAMM
Chief

WS:mh

Enc.

P.S. If I receive any further information relative to self-extinguishing cigarettes prior to our meeting on November 16, I will pass them along to you for your response.