

# THE TOBACCO INSTITUTE

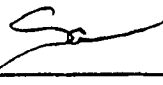
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SAMUEL D. CHILCOTE, JR.  
President

March 15, 1991

## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Members of the Executive Committee

FROM: Samuel D. Chilcote, Jr. 

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I have reported periodically on the progress of an association of businesses that continues to influence the indoor air quality debate.

The Business Council on Indoor Air (BCIA) is comprised of several chemical companies (including Dow, ICI, Union Carbide, Owens Corning and Amoco) as well as organizations concerned with ventilation and filtration systems, including Gray Robertson's Healthy Buildings International.

BCIA consistently takes the position that most indoor air quality problems can be resolved through ventilation and filtration. With Institute assistance, BCIA has positioned itself as industry's voice on indoor air issues.

March 13, that position was communicated forcefully at a legislative seminar sponsored by BCIA and attended by more than 80 representatives of federal agencies, Congressional offices, voluntary associations, chemical companies, trade associations and labor unions. Prominent among the attendees were individuals from the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), the Bureau of National Affairs, the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, the Maryland Department of the Environment, the Building Owners and Managers Association, the US Chamber of Commerce and the Chemical Manufacturers Association. In addition to BCIA members, representatives from Dupont, Allied-Signal, 3M, BASF and W.R. Grace also attended.

The program was divided into two panels. The first panel, which included officials from the House Science, Space and Technology Committee, the Consumer Product Safety Commission, EPA, the Consumer Federation of America, S.C. Johnson and Dow, debated whether government health advisories improperly circumvent the regulatory process when they are inadequately supported by the

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scientific data. Industry's views -- that health advisories should be handled carefully to avoid undue public alarm and must be issued in accordance with the most stringent scientific standards -- were expressed clearly during this debate.

The second panel discussed the utility of a building systems approach to indoor air pollution as opposed to source specific remedies and included staff from the House Subcommittee on Health and the Environment, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, OSHA and the Occupational Health Foundation, as well as HBI's Gray Robertson. Again, industry expressed its view that the building systems approach is the most cost effective and efficient solution to indoor air pollution problems.

I have attached for your information the agenda for the IAQ symposium. BCIA plans to conduct similar programs at least annually.

Enclosure

SDC:jw

cc: EPA/OSHA Task Force