

THE ARIZONA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION



February 22, 1986

Lloyd Novick, M.D.
Director
Arizona Department of Health Services
1740 W. Adams
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Dr. Novick:

Attached is a copy of the Resolution regarding smokeless tobacco which was voted upon and passed at our February 21, 1986 Board of Directors meeting.

Please let the Association know whenever a bill is introduced regarding this, so that we may take appropriate action.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Tumas

Phyllis Primas, R.N., Ph.D.

President

PP:pz

Attachment

ARIZONA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

February 1986

SUBJECT:

Smokeless Tobacco (Snuff and Chewing Tobacco)

WHEREAS, some 22 million people (one in every 12-15 Americans) use smokeless tobacco and its use has grown 11% per year since 1974; and

WHEREAS, epidemiological studies have found a relationship between use of smokeless tobacco products and oral cancer; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 27,000 individuals in the United States are afflicted with oral cancer each year that results in an estimated 9,200 deaths; and

WHEREAS, smokeless tobacco contains nicotine which is a dependenceproducing drug; and

WHEREAS, smokeless tobacco contributes to dental problems such as receding gums, abrasion of teeth, discolored teeth, and possible dental decay, and also decreases taste sensitivity and limits sense of smell; and

WHEREAS, the use of smokeless tobacco is rapidly increasing, especially among male high school and college students; and

WHEREAS, the tobacco industry relies heavily on using well known athletes and entertainers to advertise for the sale of smokeless tobacco; and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Public Health Association considers prevention and education related to the use of tobacco a priority;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Arizona Public Health Association go on record in support of efforts to reduce use of smoking products to include smokeless products; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Arizona Public Health Association requests the Surgeon General to warn the American public on hazards associated with use of smokeless tobacco, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Arizona Public Health Association requests the U.S. Olympic Committee to drop smokeless tobacco products as official sponsors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Arizona make sales and taxing of smokeless products consistent with smoking products; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NIH/NCI increase efforts to investigate the relationship between smokeless products and oral cancer, and factors that contribute to their use; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Arizona be encouraged to pass laws prohibiting the sale of any tobacco products to minors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Arizona Public Health Association work with all other agencies and organizations which share this common concern which can assist in accomplishing these goals.

PASSED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS February 21, 1986

Patricia Zurick

Executive Secretary