

October 10, 1985

MEMORANDUM

TO: Hurst Marshall  
FROM: John Bankhead  
RE: Richland County, South Carolina

At the October 8 meeting of the County Council's Administration and Finance Committee, the public smoking ordinance which has been under consideration since last May, was amended by deleting restaurants, nursing homes, nursery and day care facilities and reported favorably to the full council by a 5 to 1 vote. Also passed was a resolution commending the voluntary health groups for their work in this effort.

The next full council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 15 at 3:00p.m.

Since May, we had been able to keep the bill from being voted on in committee, but due in part to the amount of publicity given to a State Senate sub-committee hearing on a similar bill and a better organized anti-tobacco coalition, the committee took the bill up. The major factor influencing this vote is simply the amending out of restaurants from the ordinance.

Two members of the committee - Boney and Herndon - had opposed the proposal up until restaurants were dropped. Taylor stood by his committed position to us and voted against it.

The co-sponsors - McKay, who is chairman of this committee, and Monroe - naturally voted for it.

Another factor is that the local merchants who are the only ones left impacted by the ordinance, are in favor of its passage as the attached newspaper clippings I forwarded to you earlier shows John Gregg McMaster had attempted to involve the Columbia Merchants Association in opposing the ordinance but without success.

As it stand now, the councilmembers who will likely vote for passage are James Farley, Raymond McKay, John Monroe, Lillie Herndon, *and James Barber,* and Thomas Boney. Boney could be a question. The remaining members - ~~James Barber~~, Leone Castles, W. R. Rogers, Billy Taylor, Candy Waites and Robert Coble - had indicated to McMaster before the amendments that they would oppose it.

McMaster is following up with these members to persuade them to

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maintain their original position.

In addition to this, following contacts are being made:

1. Marion Fowler of the South Carolina Tobacco Warehouse Association who has helped in the past to defeat a similar ordinance in Charleston.
2. TAN enrollees in area were sent follow-up letters yesterday on matter.
3. Mary Jean Todd, aide to Commissioner of Agriculture Les Tindal, who said he would help.
4. Pete Gustafson - South Carolina Farm Bureau who will generate opposition from members in Richland County.
5. Sterling Smith will contact W.I.F.E. Group as well as tobacco distributors in county.
6. Member companies have been asked to contact suppliers.
7. McMaster attempting to involve Chamber of Commerce.
8. Joe Sapp, head of Economic Development for Columbia area, has been helpful and McMaster has requested that he write each member in opposition. Sapp lined up councilman Coble, who had been in the undecided column, to oppose ordinance.

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9. Sterling again will contact John Lumpkin, former president of South Carolina National Bank, to ask that he contact the council. Lumpkin has several close friends on council.
  
10. McMaster has written an amendment which proposes to specifically exclude all municipalities in county from ordinance. Councilman Coble has agreed to offer amendment only if it looks to him like ordinance will pass. This will dilute impact considerably.
  
11. McMaster is attempting to keep ordinance off next Tuesday's agenda.

I will keep you posted on developments.

J.B.

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**RECEIVED**

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J. R. CHERRY, JR.

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