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December 31, 1986

Mr. Ronald C. Morris
Regional Vice President
The Tobacco Institute
Dartmouth Building, Suite 304
3395 Northeast Expressway
Atlanta, Georgia 30341

Re: Clean Indoor Air Ordinance
Richland County Council

Dear Mr. Morris:

Pursuant to notice, the Richland County Council at its meeting held here in Columbia on Tuesday, December 30, 1986, with an agenda that included several items including the so-called Clean Indoor Air Ordinance, and after extensive debate, adopted the ordinance by a vote of 6 to 5. It was amended to become effective January 31, 1987.

All members of Council were present and voting. They were:

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>
1. Raymond E. McKay, Jr. (author)	1. Robert Coble
2. John D. Monroe (author)	2. W.R. Rogers
3. James R. Barber	3. Thomas E. Boney
4. Mrs. Lillie Herndon	4. Billy E. Taylor
5. James C. Farley	5. Mrs. Leone Castles
6. Mrs. Candy Waites	

The terms of Messrs. Barber, Boney, Taylor and Rogers expire on December 31, 1986.

Mr. Monroe, one of the proponents, has been ill and got up from his sick bed to attend the meeting. He did not utter a word during the course of the hearing or the entire meeting, and his presence gave the proponents the predicted 6 to 5 vote.

Each speaker was allowed only three minutes to present his views and this included the Commissioner of Agriculture D. Leslie Tindal.

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The order and positions of the speakers were as follows:

1. Bob Wells - For
2. W.H. Kirkland - Against
(Mr. Kirkland is a "sober alcoholic"; he said that cigarettes never put him in jail or in the hospital).
3. Sen. Warren Giese - For
4. Sen. Tom Smith - Against
5. Ken Allen, Attorney - For
6. D. Lesley Tindal, Commissioner of Agriculture - Against
7. Harold Gable, President of S.C. Division of Cancer Society - For
8. Rep. Woody McKay, Florence County - Against
9. John Heavener, Lung Association - For
10. David Weeks, M.D. - Against
11. Mr. David Johnson - For
12. Henry Dargan McMaster - Against
(As to ordinance being unconstitutional)
13. Mrs. _____ Wheeler - For
14. John Gregg McMaster - Against
15. Mrs. Shelby Wheeler - For
(She nurses mental patients at State Hospital; "All they do is eat, smoke and watch television.")
16. Mr. Bob Battle, Tobacco farmer - Against
17. Mrs. Gladys Pugh - For
(Retired government worker)
18. Mr. Jerry Webber, Tobacconist - Against
19. Miss Janet McMahan, S.C. Association of Health Educators - For
20. Rep. David M. Beasley, Darlington County - Against
21. (I've lost one) - For
22. Mr. Joe Stancil, S.C. Farm Bureau - Against

As you can see, these participants contributed to a very lengthy debate. But that was not all. The following members of Council explained their positions:

Mrs. Candy Waites - For	Mrs. Leone Castles - Against
Mr. Raymond E. McKay - For	Mr. Robert Coble - Against
Mr. Billy Taylor - Against	Mr. James C. Farley - For
Mr. Jim Barber - For	Mr. Thomas E. Boney - Against
Mrs. Lillie Herndon, Chairman - For	

Mrs. Waites proposed an amendment to delete the county jail exemption from the terms of the ordinance. This was adopted. (Originally, the inmates of the jail could smoke in their cells.)

Mrs. Leone Castles, in a challenging sort of maneuver, moved that the ordinance be amended to apply county-wide to any and all persons and public places. This amendment was defeated.

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The background work in connection with our efforts was extensive. For instance, we contacted Governor Riley (through an intermediary) and asked him to intervene with Council, but he declined to do so. We had the newly-elected Speaker Pro-Tem of the House to contact Councilman Jim Barber in an effort to have him swing to our side. At our request, contacts were made by letter or in person to various members of Council by many people including:

Mr. John Monroe Holliday	Mr. Joe King
Rep. David M. Beasley	Rep. Robert B. Brown
Mr. Pete Gustafson,	Rep. John William McLeod
South Carolina Farm Bureau	Rep. John I. Rogers, III,
Rep. Woodrow M. McKay	Speaker Pro-Tem
Mr. Isaac Savitz,	Sen. Thomas E. Smith, Jr.
Columbia Cigar and Candy Company	
Commissioner David Leslie Tindal	Rep. John J. Snow, Jr.
Mr. John M. Truluck	Mr. Bob Battle
Rep. Pete Pearce	Mr. Laurie Lawson, Chairman
Sheriff Frank Powell	of the Agriculture
	Commission

Here are some of the factors that contributed to the passage of the ordinance:

1. Our local newspapers supported the passage of the ordinance.
2. The newspapers generally played up the story from time to time during the past 18 or more months.
3. The Surgeon General's report hurt us very badly.
4. The general idea created by the press, et al. that smoking causes cancer and passive smoking is just as bad - all of this turned Council members against us.
5. Some members of our General Assembly, to wit, Senator Giese, is professionally and politically opposed to smoking. He ran a health study for the federal government looking into heart stress, etc. He is a tenured professor of physical education at USC and while generally conservative in his views he is bold in his opposition to smoking by anyone. Also, Sen. Joe Wilson, also generally conservative, has exercised himself in this anti-smoking field and is vocal in his opposition to smoking.
6. Smoking or not smoking is an emotional issue here just as it is in other states.

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7. The real and correct message about passive or environmental tobacco smoke has not permeated the minds of our people.
8. Many people in this area have quit smoking and they are the most vocal in opposition to smoking in any form.

Enclosed is a copy of the front page of our local paper, The State, reporting the event of Council's meeting of December 31, 1986, at which the anti-smoking ordinance was approved. This gives you an idea of the importance and prominence that our local press gives to the measure.

We will have our work cut out for us in the upcoming General Assembly which convenes the second Tuesday in January, 1987, January 13th.

Dr. David Weeks, Boise, Idaho, made an excellent witness for us. Mr. Sterling Smith handled the press before and after the hearing and presented our view with force and conviction.

The result obtained here was certainly not to our liking, but it was not because of a lack of effort in presenting our view.

Yours very truly,


John Gregg McMaster

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Enclosure

P.S. Also enclosed is a copy of the news story in our afternoon newspaper The Columbia Record of December 31, 1986.

JGM

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