

TOBACCO

Budgeting the Fiscal Impact of Tobacco Product Liability Litigation

ACP—ASIM will work with the Effective National Action to Control Tobacco (ENACT) or similar coalitions to ensure that the goals addressed in the Consensus Statement of ENACT are met. (HoD 97)

Support Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Attempt to Regulate Tobacco

ACP—ASIM strongly supports the Commissioner of the FDA in having nicotine declared an addictive substance. (HoD 97)

Youth Access to Tobacco

ACP—ASIM continues to support legislative efforts to eliminate youth access to tobacco. ACP—ASIM urges the AMA to provide a forum for sharing information among states as to experience gained in regard to youth access issues. (HoD 96)

Inpatient Use of Pharmaceutical Aids of Smoking Cessation

Hospitals should be encouraged to approve pharmaceutical aids to smoking cessation for inpatient use. (HoD 94)

Tobacco-Divestiture

Health related industries should consider divesting themselves of investments in companies which provide major support for the promotion of tobacco use. (HoD 94)

Toxic Effects of Chemical Compounds in Tobacco Products

ACP—ASIM seeks to have national medical organizations such as the AMA and Congress support federal legislation to mandate that the Environmental Protection Agency release the list and known toxic effects of chemical compounds in tobacco products and those released directly during consumption. (HoD 94)

Pharmacies That Ban the Sale of Tobacco

ACP—ASIM believes that state component societies should urge state pharmaceutical organizations to generate (and maintain) a list of all pharmacies which have voluntarily banned the sale of tobacco, and to distribute such lists to the ACP—ASIM membership. (HoD 90)

Contribution to Death Certificates

ACP—ASIM encourages state health divisions through its components to add "Did tobacco use contribute to death?" to their current death certificate. ACP—ASIM encourages the AMA, through its state medical societies to compile and disseminate available data concerning tobacco use as a contributing factor to death. (HoD 89)

Anti-Smoking Legislative Agenda

ACP—ASIM supports a legislative agenda that would:

- a. end government schizophrenia on tobacco;
- b. dissuade tobacco usage among the young; and
- c. recognize nonsmokers' rights to breathe smoke-free air.

ACP—ASIM supports an increase in the federal excise tax on tobacco products. ACP—ASIM supports an elimination of tobacco subsidies.

ACP—ASIM supports stronger warnings for tobacco products, especially that tobacco is addictive.

ACP—ASIM supports a ban on tobacco product advertising or, at the very least, elimination of the tax deductibility as a business expense of such advertising and promotion.

ACP—ASIM supports a ban on the distribution of free cigarette samples.

ACP—ASIM supports a ban on vending machine sales of tobacco products.

ACP—ASIM supports an increase to 21 years as the legal age to purchase tobacco products.

ACP—ASIM supports a ban on smoking in high schools. (HoD 86; reaffirmed HoD 88)

ACP—ASIM endorses enactment of clean indoor air laws, designed to restrict smoking in public places and protect the health of nonsmokers, at the federal, state and local level.

ACP—ASIM endorses a ban on smoking on all domestic flights as part of an effort to develop a smoke-free society. (HoD 87, reaffirmed HoD 88)

ACP—ASIM supports appropriate regulation by the Food and Drug Administration of low-tar and low-nicotine cigarettes; and of smokeless nicotine delivery devices (so-called "smokeless cigarettes").

ACP—ASIM supports legislative review of current preemptions against cigarette manufacturers' liability for the injury or death of an individual from smoking after warning labels were instituted in 1965.

ACP—ASIM encourages its component societies to urge pharmacies, drug stores, and other entities which sell health care products to: discontinue the sale and advertising of tobacco products; and, discourage the use of tobacco products by customers through notices, pamphlets and/or appropriate means.

ACP—ASIM advocates the revision of the standard certificate of death so that there is a line item with a check-off box in which physicians could check as to whether tobacco use contributed to the individual's death, as well as the pack years (length of time and quantity of cigarettes) that the individual smoked. (HoD 88)

TOBACCO: LABELING AND WARNING

Labeling

ACP—ASIM supports stronger package labeling on all tobacco products to adequately inform patients of the many health hazards associated with smoking. The labeling should be changed accordingly as new scientific evidence regarding the health hazards of tobacco products become available. (HoD 82; revised HoD 93)

TOBACCO: MARKETING AND PROMOTION

Tobacco Marketing and Promotion

ACP—ASIM reaffirms its support of a ban on the marketing and promotion of tobacco with the following guidelines:

- a. **Youth:** Societal and legislative efforts to discourage minors from using tobacco should include education them throughout their school years regarding the hazards of tobacco use, urging adults to refrain from tobacco use in their presence, condemning the targeting of tobacco promotion toward youth, and encouraging their role models in the sports and entertainment industries to refrain from public tobacco use;
- b. **Minorities and Women:** The targeting of tobacco advertisements toward minorities and women is condemned;
- c. **Subscription Lists:** No medical society should sell or provide mailing lists of its members to companies that offer magazines containing tobacco advertising. (HoD 96)

Renewed Emphasis on Smoking in Movies and on Television

ACP—ASIM recognizes that glamorizing smoking on television and in movies influences young persons to smoke, and this tends to reverse the trend of declining tobacco use. ACP—ASIM, therefore, discourages this practice and encourages efforts to effect a more responsible attitude from the media and to emphasize the importance of education of the hazards of smoking. (HoD 87)

TOBACCO: PROHIBITION ON SALE AND USE

Congress to End Subsidies Related to Tobacco Production and Distribution

ACP—ASIM believes that Congress should pass legislation ending all subsidies to the tobacco industry. (HoD 97)

Support FDA Regulation

ACP—ASIM affirms that it supports (a) the efforts of the Food and Drug Administration to regulate tobacco as a drug, including actions to restrict access to tobacco products by underage people, and (b) the elimination of government subsidies for growing, manufacturing, and distributing tobacco products. The College urged the American Medical Association to encourage state medical societies to promote initiatives at the state level, including higher excise taxes, restrictions on smoking in the workplace, and restrictions on access to tobacco products by persons under the age of 21. (ACP AMA Del I-96)

Increasing Federal Excise Taxes on Alcohol and Tobacco

As part of its set of recommendations to restore Medicare solvency, ACP—ASIM supports increasing the federal excise tax on alcohol and tobacco and earmarking the revenues to the Hospital Insurance Trust Fund. (HoD 84; reinstated HoD 95)

Smoking

ACP—ASIM urges all physicians to stop smoking and to prohibit smoking in their offices. (HoD 84; reinstated HoD 95)

Tobacco-Youth

ACP—ASIM opposes the Smokers Rights Bills and any others which include clauses which would preclude "sting" operations (intended to identify those who sell cigarettes to minors) by making the child (and the adult who asks him/her to attempt to buy cigarettes) the law-breaker.

Parent-Teacher Associations should be encouraged (both directly and through individual member-physicians) to encourage teachers' unions to help make schools tobacco free. (HoD 94)

Elimination of Price Support

ACP—ASIM supports the elimination of tax monies for price support or other incentives for the growing or production of tobacco or tobacco products. (HoD 81; reaffirmed HoD 93)

Exporting Tobacco Products

ACP—ASIM urges the U.S. government to adopt a trade policy consistent with its health policy and cease to use its trade leverage to promote the export of tobacco and the world smoking epidemic, particularly to Third World nations.

ACP—ASIM supports federal legislation requiring health warning labels in the appropriate native language on all packages of tobacco products exported from the U.S. If the nation importing the products does not have its own health warning requirements, then those packages should contain the health warnings currently required of tobacco products sold in the U.S.

ACP—ASIM supports requiring foreign advertising by U.S. tobacco producers to be at least as restrictive as types of advertising permitted in the U.S.

ACP—ASIM encourages labeling on tobacco products manufactured abroad to be at least as restrictive as labeling on tobacco products produced in the U.S. ACP—ASIM opposes efforts by the U.S. government to persuade countries to relax regulations concerning tobacco promotion and consumption.

ACP—ASIM opposes the importation and exportation of tobacco products. ACP—ASIM supports efforts to make U.S. foreign export policy more consistent with domestic health policy, such as policy on the distribution of drugs, the use of pesticides and hazardous waste disposal in other nations. (HoD 90)

SUNSETTED