Prevent the Sale!

Newsletter for Idaho Tobacco Retailers

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Sponsored by Idaho Department of Health & Welfare

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Tobacco News Here and Abroad

By Cheryl Dudley

Facts and Stats

"A" Average for February

According to Idaho Code 39-5701 the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare must inspect each business that sells tobacco to ensure that it does not sell tobacco to minors. In February 2006:

- 167 Vendors were inspected.*
- 13 Vendors sold to the inspecting minor.
- The compliance rate for the month of February 2006 was 92%

Prevent the Sale Web site

www.preventthesale.

- Learn about the law
- Take the tobacco quiz
- See what the ID's look like
- Play the Game "Would You Sell to This Person?"

Kempthorne's Plans for Tobacco Funds

According to an AP report in January 2006, Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne is planning to pay medical bills of uninsured Idaho residents with Idaho's share of the 1998 tobacco settlement fund. Both Republicans and Democrats are opposed, saying the governor's plan would take money from other important causes, such as smoking cessation and prevention programs. His opponents feel that using tobacco settlement funds to pay for indigent health care would leave little left for these important programs.

Idaho gets about \$24 million annually from the smoking settlement with the five largest tobacco companies, including Philip Morris.

Framework Convention on Tobacco Control Treaty

In February 2005, a worldwide treaty went into effect, called the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. The aim of the treaty, advocated by the World Health Organization, is to stop the estimated five million annual deaths caused by smoking, which is expected to double by 2020.

Tobacco-related illnesses are estimated to drain \$200 billion annually worldwide. While tobacco control is fairly advanced in most wealthy countries, the convention provides an opportunity for developing countries to catch up.

The convention advocates putting bans on advertising and sponsorship, and also includes public smoking restrictions, larger health warnings on cigarette packs, and promotes taxation as a way to cut consumption.

Washingtonians Taking Business to Idaho

Washington voters approved Initiative 901 in November 2005, which bans smoking within 25 feet of doorways, windows and air intakes of public places and workplaces. It took effect December 8, 2005.

Now Washington smokers who face the ban on lighting up in bars and restaurants are taking their entertainment business to Idaho.

"I've had regular clientele tell me right to my face they're going to Idaho to smoke," Tony Salerno, owner of Hogan's in Clarkston, told the Lewiston Tribune.

That has left some Washington establishments near the Idaho border having to compete with bars and restaurants in Idaho that allow smoking.

Are you Ready for Inspections?

2006 inspections are underway throughout Idaho. Be sure you're following the state's guidelines for preventing the sale of tobacco to minors, and be ready to say "no" when any minor asks to purchase tobacco products.

Now would be a good time for employers to provide a refresher course on the state's policies on the sale of tobacco, including how to spot a false ID and how to stand up to testy teens. Role-playing and practicing helps prepare employees to prevent the sale of tobacco to minors by giving clerks confidence. It's just not worth the risk. The fine imposed on clerks who sell to minors is stiff, and a bad reflection on the vendor. If a vendor has too many failed inspections the vendor can also face stiff fines and possible license suspension.

^{*}Inspections where purchase attempts were made.

Find each of the following words.

IRRITATION	CRAVING	CHAW	ADDICTIVE	INHALER
OXYGEN	CIGAR	SMELLY	PIPE	PATCH
DISEASE	ADDICTION	BUTT	CIGARETTES	TOBACCO
MOTIVATION	SPIT	METALS	TAR	CHEMICALS
BAN	COUNSELING	EMPHYSEMA	HEALTH	DRUG
QUIT	SNUFF	SMOKE	SPRAY	CANCER
ASHTRAY	HEART	STAINS	MATCHES	COST
CARBON MONOXIDE				

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