

From: John Britt
To: repace@comcast.net
Date: Fri, Nov 14, 2003 5:21 PM
Subject: Background materials for Tacoma's Board of Health

Jim -

Would you take a look at the attached list of documents that we intend to provide our Board as background? I'll be sending you our draft findings in support of the proposed resolution early next week in the hope that you can review those as well and make suggestions for revision

Though tempted to enclose some enticing single articles I have kept myself to reviews and summaries and, in one case, a meta-analysis. From a defensibility standpoint I think this is safer. The position papers and fact sheets are called out as such and shouldn't be viewed as primary sources by the Board members anyway. I have also purposely left out our county surveys of public attitudes. Some of them are favorable, but others are not (less than 1/3 support smoke-free bars) and I would not want anyone to think the Board made its decision based on the survey data rather than the scientific/ medical findings.

Also - Are you familiar with Elizabeth Whelan? She spoke, on tape, as part of a mid-day talk show on which our Health Director was speaking. She was portrayed as an anti-tobacco expert, but she basically said that SHS was no more than an "annoyance" and that people shouldn't get all worked up about it.

John