



Entertainment Industry Coalition's Linda Matson Watches
As EIC Member Presents Her Case

Liberty Speaks In Tacoma!

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April 15, 2004 was an exciting day in Tacoma! A standing-room-only crowd gathered on the waterfront deck of Luciano's Casino at 3327 Ruston Way to support the Entertainment Industry Coalition's Initiative 891. EIC's Executive Director Linda Matson provided thorough background information for television and newspaper reporters. In contrast with Breathe Easy Washington's I-890 chokehold on nontribal hospitality small businesses, the coalition's I-891 will preserve freedom of choice in all adult venues and prohibit local government such as the Tacoma-Pierce County Department of Health from preempting state law.

Many of the coalition's casino, tavern and restaurant members attended the event. Hospitality business owners and staff made it clear that the Tacoma-Pierce County Board of Health's smoking ban is taking a heavy toll on the livelihoods of nontribal hospitality business owners and employees while benefiting smoking-ban-exempt tribal facilities. Patrons of tribal establishments can enjoy

smoking as part of their hospitality experience but are prohibited from doing so at nontribal businesses. Tacoma-Pierce County Board of Health Chairman and Tacoma City Council Member Kevin Phelps supports I-890 and would extend the economic devastation of nontribal hospitality businesses statewide. That phenomenon prompts a review of 10 points about I-890.

Principal Facts About The Smoking Ban In Pierce County And I-890:

1. They do not effect tribal casinos, bars, taverns and restaurants that are exempt from smoking bans.
2. They do not and cannot prohibit smoking in all public places in Washington due to tribal exemptions.
3. They do not and cannot "protect" all workers from the alleged dangers of Environmental Tobacco Smoke.
4. They do nothing about any Indoor Air Quality measure other than Environmental Tobacco Smoke.
5. They grant a de-facto monopoly to tribes to accommodate patrons who smoke as part of a hospitality experience.
6. They craft a migration of revenue and patrons from nontribal to tribal hospitality establishments.
7. They cause a significant and adverse shift in the tax base and regulatory scheme for cities and the county.
8. They ignore current federal OSHA policy about Environmental Tobacco Smoke that does not require smoking bans.
9. They defy our legislature, which has refused to change hospitality exemptions in the Clean Indoor Air Act.
10. I-890 would expand statewide the adverse effects of the January 2004 smoking ban in Pierce County.

Why Do Some Politicians And Paid Activists Impose Such Extreme Measures On Businesses and Employees?

The motivations behind using Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and other special-interest support to circumvent the will of our legislature, and to hire powerful lawyers to defend violating state exemption and preemption law, are clearly expressed by statements of Dr. Robert Jaffe in a June 13, 2001 interview published at Tobacco.org. Referring to the American Lung Association of Washington's I-773 (the same organization now behind I-890), which imposed a 60 cents-per-pack new tax on cigarettes in 2001, Dr. Jaffe said in response to Question 3. in his interview:

"After fighting for tobacco settlement funds and not being satisfied by the amount of money dedicated long-term for reducing tobacco addiction rates, we decided to start another tax initiative t (sic) dedicate tobacco taxes toward the state's program. . . . Sometimes, the only solution is to by-pass the legislators, and allow voters to directly fund public programs that our elected officials ignore. I would prefer to see a non-profit, non-governmental organization make budgetary and programmatic decisions on tobacco control, but it hasn't been politically feasible. The Secretary of our Department of Health and our Attorney General are strong supporters of tobacco control, and our state program is moving in the right direction. " (Underline, italic added.)"

The facts say that one reason for such extreme measures could be allow the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and other *non-government organizations* to make budget and program decisions for the people of the State of Washington, through special-interest agendas that include smoking bans. *It's about social-engineering bucks and clout. **But why should nontribal hospitality business folks lose their livelihoods over RWJF's hidden agenda?***

Read "**April Fool's Day: Choked Up In Washington**" at <http://www.forces.org/writers/kjono/files/fools.htm>