



Seattle-King County Department of Public Health

Alonzo L. Plough, Ph.D., MPH, Director

May 27, 1999

Norman E. Kjono
16149 Redmond Way No., B-221
Redmond, Washington 98052

Dear Mr. Kjono:

Thank you for your letter dated May 10, 1999, concerning funding of Public Health - Seattle & King County's Tobacco Prevention Program. I believe that you are misinformed about these funding sources, none of which include pharmaceutical companies.

Public Health's funding for the Tobacco Prevention Program come primarily from two sources:

- Project ASSIST is funded through October of 1999 by the National Cancer Institute; and
Public Health's Youth Tobacco Prevention Program is funded from licensee fees received from tobacco retailers in Washington State.

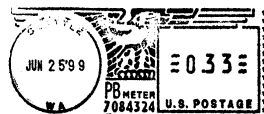
At present, we do not have programs (or plans for programs) which offer nicotine replacement products to teen smokers. You should be aware, however, that research studies are beginning to show that nicotine replacement therapy is indeed indicated for teenagers who are addicted to cigarettes, even though the products are not specifically approved for use in this age group.

I am proud of the success our Tobacco Prevention Program has achieved. Our staff will continue to coordinate and conduct one of the largest compliance check programs in the country, while expanding prevention and educational programs throughout our County and in our schools.

Again, thank you for your letter.

Sincerely,

Signature of Alonzo L. Plough
Alonzo L. Plough, Ph.D, MPH
Director



(This letter from Mr. Plough was postmarked June 25, 1999, one month after the letter date.)

Transmittal Memorandum

To: Alonzo L. Plough, Ph.D., MPH
Director, Seattle-King County Dept. of Health
Subj: Pharmaceutical Nicotine Special-Interest Funding of Anti-Tobacco
Date: July 12, 1999

Copy W/enclosures:

- The Honorable Gary Locke, Governor, State of Washington
Christine O. Gregoire, Esq. Attorney General, State of Washington
The Honorable Ron Sims, King County Executive
The Honorable Louise Miller, Chair, Met. King County Council
The Honorable Paul Schell, Mayor, City of Seattle
Dr. Terry Bergeson, Wash. Superintendent of Public Instruction
Mary C. Selecky, Secretary Washington State Department of Health
Ronald G. Barnes Ph.D., Supt. Lake Wash. School District #414
Janet Linville Lake, Wash. School District #414 Board Member
Sir Peter Walters, CEO, SmithKline Beecham
Ralph S. Larsen, CEO, Johnson & Johnson

Mr. Plough,

Thank you for your letter of May 27, 1999. A copy of your letter is included on the back page of this memorandum. Unfortunately, your letter is neither responsive to the nicotine special-interest issues that I raised, nor does it address or prove to be inaccurate material facts regarding anti-tobacco conflicts of interest brought to the attention of yourself and King County elected officials on several occasions.

It seems to me that at this point, after nine months of correspondence with you, King County Executive Sims, and Mrs. Louise Miller, Chair, Metropolitan King County Council, an admission to the effect of "Yes, several anti-tobacco organizations such as the American Cancer Society, the American Lung Association, and Washington DOC, who define curriculum and conduct programs with children in our public schools have, in the aggregate, received millions in cash compensation over the past several years from NICOTROL's Johnson & Johnson through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and NICORETTE's Smith Kline Beecham." would be sufficient.

It would also be helpful if you were to acknowledge the dramatic increase in Washington youth smoking, accompanied by an increase in adult smoking rates (as reported on March 23, 1999 by our state department of health), during the period of anti-tobacco intervention in school programs and public policy. Such results are transparently beneficial to pharmaceutical nicotine financial sponsors of anti-tobacco activists, in that they stabilize and expand the source consumer base for "Tobacco Free" nicotine delivery device products.