



Finance Revenue and Bonding Committee
March 7, 2011
American Cancer Society Testimony

RE: S.B. No. 1007 An Act Concerning The Governor's Recommendations On Revenue

The Cost of Tobacco use in Connecticut

\$1.63 billion - Annual tobacco related health care costs
\$1 billion - Annual lost productivity costs
4700 - Annual deaths in Connecticut
4700 - Youths under 18 begin smoking each year in Connecticut
440 - Secondhand smoke caused deaths in Connecticut
15.4% of adults smoke in Connecticut
15.3% of high school aged youth smoke in Connecticut
155.8 million - Packs of cigarettes sold to Connecticut residents in 2008
7.3 million - Packs bought or smoked by kids in Connecticut per year
\$3.00 State cigarette tax (4th Highest in the nation)
\$7.45 Average retail cost of a pack of cigarettes in Connecticut,
\$14.30 - Real cost per pack of cigarettes in Connecticut (Including health care & lost productivity)
\$2250 - average spent on cigarettes per smoker per year.
\$3391 - Economic cost of smoking per smoker per year.
\$507 million cost to Medicaid
30% of Connecticut Medicaid beneficiaries smoke (Almost 50% higher than the general population)
\$128 million spent by tobacco companies on marketing in Connecticut
\$529 million in tobacco generated revenue to state (MSA and tax revenue)
\$43.9 million CDC recommendation for tobacco prevention and cessation spending annually
\$400,000 2011 state expenditures for tobacco (.09% of CDC recommendation)
70% of Connecticut's smokers indicate they want to quit
45% of smokers attempt to quit each year.
5% of smokers are successful for longer than 12 months

Sources: Connecticut Department of Public Health. 2008. *Protective Health Assessment 2008*. Available at http://www.dph-ct.us/docs/PHA_Tobacco_TechDocs.pdf. CDC. 2006. *Sustaining State Programs for Tobacco Control: Data Highlights, 2006*. Available at http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/state_data/data_highlights/2006/pdfs/dataHighlights06rev.pdf; Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids - *The Toll of Tobacco 2010 Factsheet*. Available at <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/reports/settlements/toll.php?StateID=CT>