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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6118
PHONE (202) 225-4982

March 31, 1994

James W. Johnston
Chairman and CEO
RJ Reynolds
RJR Tobacco Company
401 N. Main Street
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27102

Dear Mr. Johnston:

Pursuant to Rules X and XI of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Subcommittee on Health and the Environment has jurisdiction over "public health" matters and "interstate and foreign commerce generally." Pursuant to our oversight and legislative responsibilities in this area, I am writing to request that you appear before the Health and the Environment Subcommittee on April 14, 1994 to offer testimony relevant to possible action by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), or the Congress, to regulate nicotine containing cigarettes and other tobacco products as a drug.

On March 25, 1994, Dr. David Kessler, the Commissioner of the FDA, presented testimony to the subcommittee on this matter. In his testimony, Dr. Kessler indicated that cigarette companies had secured various patents concerning means of enhancing the delivery of nicotine through tobacco products. Dr. Kessler also described a previously unrelated study by a major U.S. tobacco company which demonstrated an important additive property of nicotine.

To assure that the Subcommittee's deliberations on this matter are fully informed, it is important that you personally appear to address questions surrounding this issue, including those raised by Dr. Kessler's testimony. In particular, please be prepared to address questions regarding the process by which cigarettes are manufactured, including the addition or removal of nicotine containing compounds, if any, in that process. Please also be prepared to address any studies of the physiological or psychological effects of nicotine and related compounds undertaken by your company. You should also be prepared to address other questions relating to the production, use and health effects of cigarettes.

I ask that your company's directors of research and production accompany you to the hearing to assure that the Subcommittee's questions on this matter can be answered fully.

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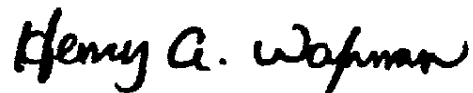
The hearing will be held at 9:45 A.M. in a room to be announced in the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, D.C. Committee rules require submission of 200 copies of written testimony to allow for distribution to members and press. Please deliver the testimony by no later than 12:00 noon on Tuesday, April 12, 1994 to 512 House Annex I, 300 New Jersey Ave. S.E., Washington, D.C.

The written statement may be of any length. However, I must ask that you limit your oral testimony to 10 minutes.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Ripley Forbes or Bill Schultz of the Subcommittee staff at (202) 226-7620.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,



HENRY A. WAXMAN
Chairman, Subcommittee on
Health and the Environment

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