

nicotine and tar content on the label of cigarette packages (S. 559; H.R. 3014; H.R. 4007; H.R. 7051; H.R. 4244); and (3) to give the FTC the power and duty to regulate advertising and labeling of cigarettes (S. 547). Both the Senate and the House Commerce Committees undertook hearings to determine the state of the medical evidence for and against the causal link between smoking and disease and to determine what Federal action, if any, should be required in the public interest. With regard to these questions, the Senate Committee concluded (S. Rept. No. 195, 89th Cong., 1st sess., p. 3):

"While there remain a substantial number of individual physicians and scientists—the Commerce Committee received testimony from 39 of them—who do not believe that it has been demonstrated scientifically that smoking causes lung cancer or other diseases, no prominent medical or scientific body undertaking a systematic review of the evidence has reached conclusions opposed to those of the Surgeon General's Advisory Committee.

"The Commerce Committee, therefore, concurs in the judgment that "appropriate remedial action" is warranted."

The House Committee was unwilling to conclude for or against the medical opinions embodied in the Advisory Committee's Report or the medical evidence elicited by its own hearings. However, it did conclude that Congressional action should be taken with regard to the relationship of smoking and health (H. Rept. No. 449, 89th Cong., 1st sess., p. 3).

20. As petitioners point out, Congress in enacting the Cigarette Labeling Act was concerned about possible economic impact on the tobacco and broadcasting industries, as well as the potential health hazard to the public. The House Report states (id., at p. 3):

"The determination of appropriate remedial action in this area, as recommended by the Surgeon General's Advisory Committee, is a responsibility which should be exercised by Congress after considering all facets of the problem. The problem has broad implications in the field of public health and health research, and involves potentially far-reaching consequences for a number of sectors of our economy. The entire tobacco raising and manufacturing industry, and the numerous businesses which market tobacco products are involved. Some proposals have been made in this area which might lead to severe curtailing or the possible elimination of cigarette advertising. This could have a serious economic impact on the television, radio, and publishing industries in the United States."

21. The compromise evolved by Congress was to require a health warning in labeling, but not in advertising, for an interim period pending a further Congressional determination as to whether extensive smoking education campaigns and industry self-discipline would render such a drastic step unnecessary. The Senate Report states (S. Rept. No. 195, 89th Cong., 1st sess., p. 5):

"Considering the combined impact of voluntary limitations on advertising under the Cigarette Advertising Code, the extensive smoking education campaigns now underway, and the compulsory warning on the package, which will be required under the provisions of this bill, it was the Committee's unanimous judgment that no warning in cigarette advertising should be required pending the showing that these vigorous, but less drastic, steps have not adequately alerted the public to the potential hazard from smoking."

The House Report similarly states that the Cigarette Advertising Code and the educational and informational programs of HEW in combination with the Labeling Act made it unnecessary to insert health warnings in cigarette advertising as proposed by the FTC (H. Rept. No. 449, 89th Cong., 1st sess., pp. 4, 5). The Labeling Act provides that the provisions which affect the regulation of advertising shall terminate on July 1, 1969 (sec. 10). The reason for specifying this termination date was the expectation of Congress that before that date, on the basis of all available information, including that contained in the reports to be submitted by HEW and FTC, it would reexamine the subject matter of the Labeling Act.

CONCLUSION

22. In light of the foregoing, it is our view that section 5 of the Labeling Act was meant to preclude any requirement of a health warning in the advertising itself, as proposed by the FTC rule (see par. 7, App. A), but there was no legislative intent otherwise to foreclose the use of radio along with other educational media, as an effective means of informing the public to the potential hazard of smoking. The Fairness Doctrine has its reason for being in (1949 Report on Editorializing, 13 F.C.C. at 1249):