

TOBACCO POLITICS

E On a per member basis, California legislators in 1995 have received more money than the members of Congress in 1995. The tobacco industry had contributed \$2,331 per member in the state of California. In comparison, the tobacco industry contributed \$1,859 per member of Congress. (1)

E Constituency groups must exert continuous pressure on the state legislature and administration to ensure full, sustained funding for voter-mandated programs (referring to proposition 99 funded programs). (2)

E About 90 companies worldwide earn more than 15% of their income from tobacco, and between 30 and 40 companies in the United States do so. (3)

E Cigars have traditionally been taxed at lower rates and are not covered by the currently proposed FDA regulations for tobacco. (4)

Sources:

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4. Cigars: Health Effects and Trends. (1998). *Smoking and Tobacco Control Monograph #9*. United States Department of Health and Human Services.