



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN CALLEY  
LT. GOVERNOR

March 18, 2013

Shelly Kiser  
Director of Advocacy  
American Lung Association  
1475 E. 12 Mile Road  
Madison Heights, MI 48041

Dear Ms. Kiser:

Thank you for your letter to Governor Snyder regarding the importance of decreasing the use of tobacco. As Director of Strategy, I am responding on his behalf.

As you are aware, the Governor, in his 2011 Health and Wellness special message presented the Health and Wellness 4 x 4 Plan, which recommends the practice of four healthy behaviors and keeping four health measures in control. The four healthy behaviors are: maintain a healthy diet, engage in regular exercise, get an annual physical exam, and avoid all tobacco use. The four measures are body mass index (BMI), blood pressure, cholesterol level, and blood sugar/glucose level. Additionally, as part of the message the Governor made clear that he would veto any attempt to decrease taxes on cigarettes or other tobacco products.

The Health and Wellness 4 x 4 tool, as well as the efforts of communities, employers, providers, non-profits and citizens to develop innovative programs promoting health and wellness will help Michigan achieve our goal of avoiding all tobacco use and exposure. One such initiative, undertaken by the Department of Community Health, is the Tobacco Control Program. This program is dedicated to eliminating exposure to secondhand smoke in worksites and public places, reducing smoking-related illnesses among Michigan residents, and preventing youth access to tobacco products. We plan to continue our focus on prevention by promoting our health and wellness programs.

Your comments are much appreciated and will be considered as we continue with the process of creating a healthier Michigan for ourselves and for future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Rustem".

Bill Rustem  
Director of Strategy