

JOHN F. KERRY
MASSACHUSETTS

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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540
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CAMBRIDGE, MA. 2, 1987

Mr. Joseph E. Connarton
Office of the City Clerk
City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Dear Mr. Connarton:

Thank you for informing me of your views concerning a ban on smoking on aircraft.

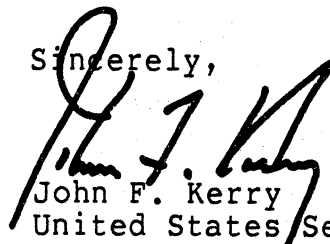
As someone who has occasion to fly quite often between Boston and Washington, I can testify first hand to the inadequacies of separating smokers from non-smokers. However, what is more important is the negative effects of passive smoke on non-smokers and especially on children, the elderly, people with allergies and hearing conditions.

In a Surgeon General report released last December titled The Health Consequences of Involuntary Smoking, Dr. Koop concluded that 1) involuntary smoking is a cause of disease, including lung cancer, in healthy non-smokers; 2) cigarette smoke puts children at increased risk of lung infections, and may permanently injury their lungs, and 3) simple separation of smokers from non-smokers does not eliminate the problem.

Indeed there is clearly a need to address the issue of smoking on domestic flights. The atmosphere in an airplane is artificial, and perfect ventilation is impossible. Currently, people, and particularly flight attendants, are being subjected to recycled bad air which is damaging to ones health. I personally support prohibiting smoking on all domestic flights and am currently reviewing other legislation which would impose smoking restraints on all other public conveyances.

Once again I thank you for informing me of your views. Please feel free to contact me again on this or any other matter of concern to you.

Sincerely,


John F. Kerry
United States Senator

JFK/mda

3.

S-719

Comm. from Senator John F. Kerry, in acknowledgment & appreciation of resolutions adopted by the City Council concerning a ban on smoking on aircraft.

In City Council,

December 7, 1987

12-7-87

Placed on file