

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Philip Morris U.S.A. Statement on Senate Commerce Committee Legislation**

NEW YORK, April 8, 1998 -- We regret that an historic opportunity to resolve decades old controversies surrounding tobacco has been lost.

We continue to want to be part of a solution to these controversies, particularly youth smoking. However, such a solution in this political environment is no longer possible.

We will actively oppose the Senate Commerce Committee bill because of its punitive impact on Philip Morris, our consumers, suppliers, retailers, growers and others.

We will ask our allies, consumers, employees and shareholders to join us in our opposition.

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Attachment

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