

NEWMA

NEW ENGLAND WHOLESALE
MARKETERS ASSOCIATION

Dear Wholesale Distributor/Advertising Executive/Retailer/Director

The business-friendly climate in Massachusetts may be in jeopardy!

Attorney General Scott Harshbarger has new rules expanding his authority under chapter 93A, the consumer protection law, of Massachusetts General Law. He plan to classify certain common advertising and sales practices as unfair and deceptive.

Although it initially affect advertising and sales of a specific legal product, the Attorney General's expanded authority may allow him to regulate even more products, practices, packaging and advertising. In short, these proposed rules are very anti-business at a time when the state claims to be more business friendly.

We do not need more government interference. If the Attorney General can severely limit the right to advertise, all of our rights of businesses are likely to be compromised. Businesses all over the Commonwealth of Massachusetts would be open to unfair attacks and unreasonable new rules.

Please take action now to stop the Attorney General from interfering in rights of private businesses.

First, please review the enclosed documents — a copy of M.G.L, chapter 93A, a copy of the Attorney General's proposals and a summary of the proposed rules.

Second, please plan to attend one of the two public hearings on the proposal scheduled for later in May. These hearings are your opportunity to express how the new rules will directly and immediately affect your business or members. You should also point out that this expansion of the Attorney General's authority is unnecessary and very anti-business.

Boston Hearing
Wednesday, May 20, 10:30 a.m.
C. Walsh Theater, Suffolk University
55 Temple Street

Springfield Hearing
Thursday, May 21, 10:30 a.m.
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office Building, Room 305
436 Dwight Street

Finally, the Attorney General opened a written comment period on his proposals until June, 19, 1998. Please take this opportunity to explain specifically how it will affect your business or members. Also, tell him that if Massachusetts is trying to be more business friendly, these proposals send the wrong message. I also recommend sending a copy of your letter to the Secretary of the Commonwealth and the director of the Economic Development Department.