

- Reluctant to testify @ state level on behalf of tobacco
- check if willing on food reg. issues.

opportunities

- Reg reform engagement starting @ state level.

**For More Information Contact:**  
**Neal Cohen**  
 (202) 778-1027

TASSC



# TASSC Annual Report

## Mission Statement

- ▶ Highlight the Importance of basing policy decisions on sound science and expose junk science messengers and their negative influence


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# TASSC Annual Report

## Objectives

- ▶ Raise the level of awareness among opinion leaders, the media and decisionmakers on the role of sound science in policymaking
- ▶ Shape a climate of public opinion that is resistant to junk science messenger's scare tactics
- ▶ Engage credible scientists in controversial policy discussions



# **TASSC Annual Report**

## **Broad Base of Support**

- ▶ Broad base of support
  - ▲ 700 members
  - ▲ Representatives of small and large businesses from virtually all industry sectors
  - ▲ Former and current federal, state and local policymakers
  - ▲ 135 sources of funding



# TASSC Annual Report

## Assets

- ▶ Nationally recognized scientists
  - ▲ 230 independent scientific experts from 39 states and Canada, including:
    - ✓ Nobel Prize winners
    - ✓ Members of the National Academy of Sciences
    - ✓ High level representation:
      - 20 Presidents**
      - 10 Vice Presidents**
      - 4 Deans**
      - 3 Chairmen**
      - 27 Directors**
      - 4 Department Heads**

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# TASSC Annual Report

## Assets

- ▶ Visible and Credible
  - ▲ 8.25 million individual impressions in print and broadcast media in 1995 alone
  - ▲ What others are saying

# TASSC Annual Report

## Assets -- Visible and Credible

### What Others Are Saying About TASSC

- ▶ "The coalition (TASSC) needs to convince the general public that 'saving the earth' may seem more gratifying for the soul, but salvaging the practice of sound science will save us a lot more time, money and anxiety in the long run." Michelle Malkin columnist, *Los Angeles Daily News*
- ▶ "A new survey has found that a large percentage of researchers and scientists believe public confidence in scientific studies has declined over the last decade because the government has manipulated research to support pre-set agendas." *Inside EPA's Risk Policy Report*

# TASSC Annual Report

## Assets -- Visible and Credible What Others Are Saying (cont'd)

- ▶ "I reaffirm my wholehearted support for the goals you have set for The Advancement of Sound Science Coalition (TASSC). I applaud your efforts to promote truth in science..." James D. Watkins, Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)
- ▶ "...CIPA sees in TASSC an ally opposed to unreasonable regulation that cannot be challenged on the grounds of vested interest." *The American Oil & Gas Reporter*
- ▶ "I'm glad you are here. I am totally enamored to this idea that you would head up a TASSC force of scientists to actually counterbalance people." Roger Hedgcock Show, KSDO-AM Radio/San Diego





# TASSC Annual Report

## Assets

- ▶ Domestic and International Reach
  - ▲ Participated In a wide variety of groups and forums in the U.S. and abroad
    - ▶ American Legislative Exchange Council
    - ▶ Society of Petroleum Engineers/ Environmental Protection Agency
    - ▶ California Independent Petroleum Association
    - ▶ Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission
    - ▶ Indoor Air and Health Conference/Cornell University
  - ▲ Participated In scientific conferences In Latin America
    - ▶ National Academy of Medicine, Argentina
    - ▶ Centre for Environmental Control and Waste Management and the University of Sao Paolo, Brazil

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# **TASSC Annual Report**

## **Recent Successes**

- ▶ Placement of opinion-editorial series on risk assessment and regulatory reform
  - ▲ **"Bad science leads to bad decisions" *Rocky Mountain News***
  - ▲ **"More science, less politics in regulatory reform" *Waterloo Courier***
  - ▲ **"Let's make sure Senators Breaux and Johnston make reform a reality" *The Houma Courier***
  - ▲ **"Role of science in risk assessments" *The Detroit News***
  - ▲ **"Risk assessment makes sound rules" *Syracuse Post-Standard***
  - ▲ **"Federal regulatory reforms would allow local governments to be more effective" *Anchorage Daily News***



# TASSC Annual Report

## Recent Successes (cont'd)

- ▶ Commissioned media content study that showed clear slant against regulatory reform
  - ▲ Used by Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole during floor debate in press release: *Regulatory Reform & the Media -- Facts on Side of Reform, Despite Ongoing Distortions*
  - ▲ Picked up by *Investor's Business Daily Executive Update*, *Inside EPA*, the *Times-Picayune* (LA), the *St. Louis Post Dispatch* (MO) and the Heartland Institute fax-on-demand system
  - ▲ Elicited response from EPA Administrator, Carol Browner



# TASSC Annual Report

## Recent Successes (cont'd)

- ▶ Engaged in highly controversial issue debates:
  - ▲ Environmental Working Group reports: *"Pesticides in Baby Food"* and *"Weed Killers by the Glass"*
  - ▲ Ralph Nader and Cancer Prevention Coalition "Dirty Dozen" attack on consumer products
  - ▲ Court of Appeals decision on EPA ethanol mandate
  - ▲ Congressional debate over risk assessment
  - ▲ Discussion of combatorial biology



# TASSC Annual Report

## Recent Successes (cont'd)

- ▶ Recruited former Congressman Mickey Edwards and Dr. Bruce Ames to Advisory Board
- ▶ Highlighted in lead paragraphs of *Los Angeles Times* feature story on consumers risk anxiety
- ▶ Participated in numerous trade and academic conferences
- ▶ Asked by major utilities to coordinate objective response to EPA report on electric and magnetic fields

# TASSC Annual Report

## Recent Successes (cont'd)

- ▶ TASSC support solicited by major players in sound science debates, including:
  - ▲ **The Annapolis Center**
  - ▲ **Political Economy Research Center (PERC)**
  - ▲ **Project Relief**
  - ▲ **American Chemical Society Risk Education Project**
  - ▲ **Baltimore Area Clean Air Project**
  - ▲ **American Council on Science and Health**
  - ▲ **Minnesota Biotechnology Association**
  - ▲ **Texas Public Policy Foundation**
  - ▲ **Society of Petroleum Engineers/Environmental Protection Agency**
  - ▲ **California Independent Petroleum Association**
  - ▲ **Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission**

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# **TASSC -- Strategy '96**

## **Future Activities**

- ▶ **Continue rapid response to junk science messengers**
- ▶ **Conduct series of regional conferences on sound science and environmental policy**
- ▶ **Hold individual briefings with media and policymakers**
- ▶ **Identify and exploit highly controversial junk science issue**
- ▶ **Engage in international debates**
- ▶ **Expand TASSC membership and funding base**

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