

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL



ALLAN H. (BUD) SELIG  
*Commissioner Emeritus*

November 9, 2016

District 10 Alderman Michael J. Murphy  
City Hall  
200 East Wells Street  
Room 205  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Alderman Murphy:

I hope this letter finds you well. I write to you to offer my support of your proposal of an ordinance that would ban smokeless tobacco at Miller Park and other sports venues in my hometown of Milwaukee.

During my many years in Baseball, I have seen firsthand the significant detrimental effects caused by the use of smokeless tobacco. My position on this topic is – and has always been – that smokeless tobacco should be eliminated from the great game of Baseball. As Chairman of the Major League Executive Council, I implemented a ban of smokeless tobacco in the Minor Leagues in 1993. In the years that followed, I consistently voiced our staunch opinion that smokeless tobacco is dangerous, sets a poor example for young fans and should not be used at the Major League level. Major League Baseball's opposition to smokeless tobacco has led to incremental steps in collective bargaining that limited the availability and exposure of such products and educated the public about the dangers related to their use, but we have fallen short of the ban that we have sought. I know that my successor, Commissioner Robert D. Manfred, Jr., echoes my views in support of a ban and wholeheartedly supports this public health initiative.

I laud the proposed ordinance in Milwaukee and the work of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, and I hope that continued, collective progress will rid smokeless tobacco from our National Pastime forever.

Sincerely,

  
Allan H. Selig  
Commissioner Emeritus

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