# National Tobacco Cessation Collaborative Tobacco Cessation Priorities for the Nation Partner Activities

# 8. Support the increase in the federal excise tax on tobacco to expand assistance for tobacco users who want to quit

## American Cancer Society

• ACS's 13 Divisions and ACS CAN actively promote smoke-free policies, tobacco taxes and increased funding for tobacco control prevention programs including cessation. They were an important part of the coalition that recently were successful in helping to secure a Federal tax increase of 62 cents/pack, through the SCHIP bill. At the federal level, ACS and ACS CAN have supported legislation that would provide insurance coverage for cessation.

#### American Lung Association

• Extensive lobbying & grassroots activity at national and state levels

### American Nurses Association

- On July 31, 2007, ANA endorsed the Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act of 2007 (CHAMP Act; H.R. 3162). This bill proposed to increase finding for State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) by \$50 billion over 5 years and allot an additional \$40 billion towards Medicare improvements, through a 45 cent increase in tobacco tax.
- On September 25, 2007, ANA endorsed the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007 (H.R. 967). This compromise bill proposed to increase funding of the SCHIP by \$35 billion over 5 years, through a 61 cent increase in tobacco tax.

#### American Society of Clinical Oncology

• As stated in ASCO's 2003 tobacco control policy statement, ASCO supports raising federal excise taxes by at least \$2 per pack and encouraging states to consider tobacco taxes as a first resort in revenue enhancement.

#### CDC Office on Smoking and Health

• The CDC OSH 2007 *Best Practices Guide* provides states with recommended spending for operations, medication and media /promotion.

#### North American Quitline Consortium

- Provide quitline data to partners as needed to support tax increases.
- Developed fact sheet on sustainability of quitlines that recommends dedicating some portion of tax increases to support cessation services
- Encourage NAQC members to contact policy makers when appropriate.

#### Partnership for Prevention

- Partnership advocated for support of the federal excise tax increase with US Representatives and Senators.
- Partnership provided materials and assistance to selected state advocacy efforts.

#### University of Wisconsin – Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention

• On an ongoing basis, the UW-CTRI educates legislators and other policymakers on the effects of increased tobacco excise taxes on youth initiation, adult cessation, and changes in revenue. As part of this effort, the UW-CTRI also educates legislators and other policymakers about increases in the demand for cessation services as a result of such policy changes and the necessity of ensuring that smokers have the necessary services to quit.