



FRANK R. LAUTENBERG  
UNITED STATES SENATOR

September 5, 2008

Dear Friends:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer my warmest congratulations and best wishes to New Jersey GASP as you celebrate your successes of the past year and pass the baton to your new leadership.

New Jersey GASP was established in 1974 and is recognized as one of the world's oldest and most successful citizen non-smokers' organizations. As you all know, the federal airline-smoking ban is one of my proudest legislative achievements. I could not have passed that legislation without the active support of New Jersey GASP. I was proud to have you beside me in that fight that has benefited everyone who has boarded a plane since 1987. Now, with your help, smoke-free airplanes, restaurants and work places are the rule, rather than the exception.

Congratulations to Regina Carlson, a true pioneer activist for smoke-free air, who has retired after 30 years of dedicated leadership of New Jersey GASP. Congratulations and good luck to Karen Blumenfeld, who takes up the mantel of leading your organization.

I'd like to offer my warmest good wishes to Dr. Douglas Chester, who is retiring after 28 years as President of New Jersey GASP's Board of Directors. Congratulations to Dr. Fred Jacobs, former Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, as he assumes the leadership of your board. Dr. Jacobs was instrumental in passing the New Jersey Smoke-Free Act in 2006. All the best to New Jersey GASP's dedicated, retiring board members and congratulations to all of you who are joining the board this year.

Thank you for all you have done to assure a healthy, smoke-free environment for all of us, and thank you for what we will accomplish in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank R. Lautenberg".