

In service of their country



Steve Deal/Staff

Duluth city employee Todd Reed puts a flag on a cross for World War II veteran C.P. Whitehead, one of about 90 crosses erected in honor of veterans for Memorial Day.

A service at 6 p.m. Friday in Old Town Duluth will include an Air Force color guard, Navy bugler, the Duluth police drill team and a 21-gun salute.

Limit tobacco sale to youth, Sullivan urges

Ban cigarette vending machines, license retailers, he is urging states

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Health Secretary Louis Sullivan today is urging states to ban cigarette vending machines, license tobacco retailers and take other actions to limit sales to youth, government sources say.

Dr. Sullivan's initiative will not involve any federal legislation but will propose model legislation for the states to enact, the sources said in advance of his appearance before the Senate Finance Committee.

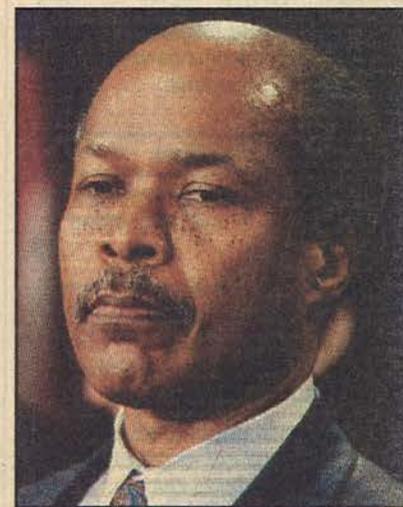
They said key parts of the plan include a ban on cigarette vending machines, to be carried out gradually, and a requirement that cigarette sellers be licensed — as are retailers who sell alcoholic beverages.

Forty-four states and the District of Columbia prohibit the sale of cigarettes to minors, but the age differs from state to state and the laws are widely unenforced.

Anti-smoking legislation approved last week by the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee would spend \$110 million on a program to encourage states to enforce laws against the sale of cigarettes to minors, including restrictions on vending machines.

The Bush administration in February said many provisions of the legislation were unnecessary.

An article in this week's issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association said 3 million Americans under age 18 con-



Louis Sullivan
Proposing model legislation

sume 947 million packs of cigarettes and 26 million containers of snuff and chewing tobacco annually.

Nearly 19 percent of high school seniors smoke daily — 11 percent of them more than a half pack per day — according to an annual survey of high school seniors by the National Institute on Drug Abuse's annual survey of high school seniors.

Dr. Sullivan has said that 80 percent to 90 percent of adults who smoke started before they were 18 years old.

About 16 percent of illegal cigarette sales to minors come from vending machines, according to a report by the inspector general of

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Cigarette: Vending machine ban urged

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the Department of Health and Human Services requested by Dr. Sullivan.

"The younger the children are, the more likely they are to purchase from a machine," said the report released today.

"Enforcement experts agree that effective youth access legislation should deal with vending machines," the report said.

The report said half the states have no policy on access to cigarette vending machines by minors, and a third require a warning sign be posted on the machine saying sales to minors are prohibited.

A few states limit placement of vending machines to places that do not allow children, and Utah has had limited success in an experiment using locking devices that required an employee to activate the machine, the report said.

Sixteen communities in Minnesota have banned cigarette vending machines entirely and "these bans have generally been well received and are expected to lead to stricter enforcement of

Schools hit tobacco where it hurts: Harvard, CUNY sell investments

The New York Times

Harvard University and the City University of New York have eliminated stock in tobacco companies from their investment portfolios in what may be harbingers of a new tactic to highlight the dangers of smoking.

The Harvard action was disclosed by President Derek Bok in a May 18 letter to three students at the university's public health school. Mr. Bok said Harvard had decided on

divestiture in September and completed the move in March.

A Harvard spokeswoman declined to say which tobacco companies the university had held stock in or how much of its \$4.68 billion was in tobacco stock. But a paper presented by a Massachusetts Department of Health official last month at an Australian conference on smoking estimated Harvard's tobacco portfolio was worth \$25 million in 1987 and would be worth at least twice that in today's market.

over-the-counter sales."

Dr. Sullivan has made anti-smoking issues one of his top priorities at the Department of Health and Human Services.

In January, he took on R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. for planning to test market a cigarette aimed primarily at blacks, saying

the company was promoting "a culture of cancer." The next day, Reynolds canceled its plans.

Then he called on professional athletes to turn away the "blood money" from cigarette companies that sponsor sporting events.