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STATUS OF FLUORIDATION IN NORWAY

Norway is cited by opponents of fluoridation as having "banned" fluoridation. The New Scientist issue of July 24, 1975, carried a letter from the Dental Division of the Health Services of Norway which stated that no political decision had been made to abandon fluoridation and "the Norwegian Dental Association supports fluoridation as a safe, effective and efficient public health measure."

The following chronology of events in Norway was given:

- 1959 - court decision that legislation would be needed to permit fluoridation
- 1968 - fluoridation unanimously recommended by a Government Committee with scientific competence relevant to fluoridation
- 1974 - Parliamentary Committee on Health and Social Services expressed the opinion that a more comprehensive review was needed before making a decision
- 1975 - Minister of Social Affairs told Parliament that effects of water fluoridation were adequately documented to permit fluoridation

The facts as presented in this letter from the Health Services of Norway are:

"No legislation has yet been presented to, or voted on by the Norwegian National Assembly, and water fluoridation has so far not been practiced in this country."

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