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## **House Commerce Committee Passes Statewide Smokefree Worksite Legislation**

*Legislators approve House Bill 4163, send bill to House floor*

**Lansing, Mich.** – Michigan took a big step forward today in joining 31 other states that protect workers with smokefree worksites when the House Commerce Committee approved House Bill 4163, 12 votes to four, and sent it to the full House for consideration.

The Campaign for Smokefree Air (CSA) has been working with lawmakers in the House and Senate to make Michigan the 32<sup>nd</sup> state to embrace smokefree air and protect all workers from exposure to the dangerous toxins in secondhand smoke. Thirty-one other states have comprehensive smokefree workplace policies and more than half of Americans now live in a city or state with smokefree workplace protection laws.

HB 4163 would create smokefree workplaces statewide, including restaurants and bars.

“We are delighted that legislators took the first step toward making Michigan worksites smokefree,” said Judy Stewart, CSA spokesperson. “This is only the first step and legislators need to continue listening to the majority of Michigan residents who want their health protected by smokefree worksites, including restaurants and bars.”

In two previous hearings, the House Commerce Committee listened as lawmakers, doctors, and victims of secondhand smoke gave their testimonies on why Michigan should go smokefree. A statewide poll showed that nearly two-thirds of Michigan’s registered voters favor a new law creating smokefree environments in all Michigan workplaces. The poll also found that nearly 80 percent of Michigan registered voters said they would be more likely or just as likely to patronize their favorite restaurants if it went smokefree.

### **About CSA**

The Campaign for Smokefree Air is a grassroots coalition with more than 190 members, including leadership from the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, American Lung Association of Michigan, Michigan Hospital Association and Michigan State Medical Society, as well as other statewide groups that support making workplaces, including restaurants and bars, smokefree. For more information about the Campaign for Smokefree Air, please visit [www.MakeMIAirSmokefree.org](http://www.MakeMIAirSmokefree.org).

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