



Campaign for Smokefree Air Newsletter

Legislative Update – House Commerce Committee Holds Hearing on HB 4163

On June 12, the Michigan House held a hearing on House Bill 4163, legislation proposed to create smokefree environments in all workplaces, including restaurants and bars, in Michigan. At the hearing several CSA supporters and smokefree air advocates testified in front of the House Commerce Committee. Those who testified included legislative sponsors, doctors and people who have been personally affected by the harmful effects of secondhand smoke.

The hearing was a great success. The CSA hopes to have another hearing at the end of the month where a vote could possibly take place to move the legislation to the House floor.

CSA wants to thank all those who testified and the many supporters who came to Lansing to attend the hearing. As many of you have seen this hearing brought intense attention from the media, CSA is hopeful that this attention will let lawmakers understand how important smokefree environments are to Michigan residents.



Celebrating our Growth

The Campaign for Smokefree Air (CSA) is proud to announce 29 new organizations have joined the fight to create smokefree work environments in Michigan, bringing the coalition total to more than 150 groups. They include:

- American College of Midwives, West Michigan Chapter
- Calhoun County Cancer Control Coalition
- Chippewa County Health Department
- Disability Network of Michigan
- Gourmet Café (Clarkston, MI)
- Governor's Council on Physical Fitness
- Houghton-Barraga-Keweenaw Medical Society
- Jackson County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition
- Kent County Medical Society
- Lakeshore Lung Society
- Michigan Association of Public Health and Preventive Medicine Physicians
- Michigan Citizens for Smokefree Air
- Michigan Fitness Foundation
- Michigan Psychiatric Society
- Michigan Vascular Institute
- Multiple Chemical Sensitivities America
- Muskegon Community Health Project
- Muskegon County Medical Society
- Muskegon County Tobacco Reduction Coalition
- Pfizer
- Pulmonary & Critical Care of Northwest Michigan
- Robert W. Warner & Associates, P.C.
- Saginaw County Medical Society
- Smokefree Ottawa
- Sugarfoot Saloon (Cedar, MI)
- Tuscola County Medical Society



- Upper Michigan Cardiovascular Associates, PC
- Walker, Gilm, Kursik, Pank, PC
- Weyco, a Meritain Health Company

Welcome to our newest advocates! For the complete list of organizations that support smokefree air, click the following link or copy and paste it into your Web browser: <http://www.makemiairsmokefree.org/show-your-support.php>. If you know of an organization or business interested in joining our campaign, please have them visit Pledge Your Group's Support at <http://www.makemiairsmokefree.org/show-your-support.php>



Smokefree Disney!

Disney has opted to make all of its 22 hotels and time-share resorts smokefree as of June 1, 2007. In 2000, the theme park designated outdoor smoking areas, creating a predominantly smokefree environment at its theme parks. Guests violating the new smokefree rules face up to a \$500 fine.

The Campaign for Smokefree Air (CSA) applauds Disney's decision to listen to their guests' demands for clean, smokefree air. Disney's decision to become smokefree came as a result of guests making their views and opinions heard. CSA encourages its advocates to do the same by contacting their local lawmaker and making the requests for a smokefree Michigan heard.





Smokefree New Jersey is a Success

Since New Jersey's Clean Indoor Air Act went into effect in April 2006 New Jersey residents have been enjoying the benefits. The law requires all workplaces to be smokefree.

"It's saving lives," said Sen. John Adler, D-Camben, who was a leading mover of the legislation that became the law.

"Patrons and employees are working in healthier environments," said state Health and Senior Services Commissioner Fred Jacobs, calling the smokefree air legislation "a giant step forward in public-health preventative services."

U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona released his report this year on the deadly effects of secondhand smoke and the facts are clear and indisputable--secondhand smoke kills and the only way to protect all workers is for comprehensive smokefree air legislation.

All workers are affected – those who work in office buildings, factories, restaurants and bars. Specifically, food service workers are 50 percent more likely than the general population to develop lung cancer, largely because many of them are exposed to secondhand smoke on the job.

NJ Breathes and the Institute of Medicine and Public Health of New Jersey conducted a poll last October that found 73 percent of residents surveyed approve of the law. The poll also found that 89 percent say the law makes bars and restaurants healthier places. Six months after the law went into effect, health officers reported 90 percent compliance at restaurants and 76 percent compliance at bars.

New Jersey, along with California, Florida and New York, is a great example of a state reaping the benefits of being smokefree. With over half of Americans now protected by smokefree legislation it is past time for Michigan lawmakers to do the same for the people of the Great Lakes State! To see who has gone smokefree across the state, the U.S. and the world please visit www.MakeMIAirSmokefree.org.



Smokefree is Catching On

Smokefree worksites continue to be a new, healthy trend across the country and throughout the world. Four states and a European country have recently joined the effort to protect workers and patrons from the dangers of secondhand smoke. Each of these places is taking steps to make public areas safer and healthier for everyone.

Illinois

The Illinois Legislature has sent Senate Bill 500, Smokefree Illinois Act, to Gov. Rod Blagojevich for his signature. He has announced he will sign the legislation, which will make almost all indoor public places 100-percent smokefree, including bars, restaurants and private clubs, beginning Jan. 1, 2007.

Maryland

Maryland Gov. O'Malley signed the comprehensive Clean Indoor Air Act of 2007, which was overwhelmingly approved by the Maryland General Assembly. The law will cover all worksites, restaurants, bars, and private clubs and will take effect February 1, 2008.

Minnesota

Most recently, Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty signed and passed the Freedom to Breathe Act of 2007, making Minnesota the 28th state to pass smokefree air legislation. The new law will go into effect October 1, 2007.

Tennessee

Legislation passed the House and Senate and made Tennessee the 30th state to go smokefree. Tennessee's Clean Indoor Air law covers workplaces and restaurants.

Northern Ireland

As of April 30, 2007, Northern Ireland will be smokefree in most workplaces, public places and certain vehicles.

To learn who else has gone smokefree please visit www.MakeMIAirSmokefree.org.