



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 21, 2007

CONTACT: Emily Gerkin Palsrok

517-316-0210 (office)

517-862-5462 (cell)

epalsrok@baileypr.com

Tennessee, Oregon and New Hampshire go smokefree

31 states now ahead of Michigan in protecting workers' and residents' health

Lansing, Mich. – The Campaign for Smokefree Air (CSA) today applauds Tennessee, Oregon and New Hampshire for protecting workers, residents and tourists from secondhand smoke exposure by passing smokefree legislation and for bringing the total of smokefree states to 31.

“CSA is thrilled at the recent additions of three new states to the long list of smokefree states nationwide,” said Susan Schechter, CSA spokesperson. “Hopefully, our state legislators will embrace what so many already have and make Michigan the 32nd smokefree state.”

Michigan advocates for smokefree workplaces recently made their cases before the House Commerce Committee when they testified on House Bill 4163 and urged its immediate passage. HB 4163 would create smokefree workplaces statewide, including restaurants and bars. A second hearing is scheduled for June 26, 2007, and a vote is anticipated.

Momentum for a smokefree Michigan continues to grow with advocates increasingly voicing their support for statewide legislation. Overwhelming support for statewide smokefree legislation was apparent in several recent online media-sponsored polls.

Sixty one percent of respondents to a WDIV-TV 4 poll in Detroit thought legislation was a great idea. A similar poll by WXYZ-TV 7 in Detroit found that 67 percent of respondents believed Michigan bars and restaurants should be smokefree.

In an online poll at Michigan State University's campus newspaper, *The State News*, more than 70 percent of respondents said they thought lawmakers should make Michigan worksites, including restaurants and bars, smokefree.

About CSA

The Campaign for Smokefree Air is a grassroots coalition with more than 155 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.

###