Smoke-free Policies: A Health Win



Secondhand smoke (SHS) is a killer. The science is not in dispute any longer. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention reports that SHS "causes lung cancer, cardiovascular and respiratory diseases in nonsmoking adults and children." (2011)

"SHS is a serious health hazard that causes premature death & disease in children and non-smoking adults." (US Surgeon General, 2006)

7,896 deaths in Alabama are caused by smokingrelated diseases. 820 Alabama deaths are caused by SHS exposure-ALL PREVENTABLE!

*2010: U.S. Surgeon General Regina Benjamin from Alabama states "The chemicals in tobacco smoke reach your lungs quickly every time you inhale causing damage immediately...even the smallest amount of tobacco smoke can damage your DNA and lead to cancer."

"Smoke-free laws reduce SHS exposure and related health problems among non-smokers." (CDC, 2011)

Smoke-free laws reduce the risk of heart disease, even brief exposure to SHS can lead to heart attacks (Institute of Medicine, 2009).

All Alabamians have the right to breathe smoke-free air and to work, learn and recreate in environments that don't endanger their health!

Currently in Alabama there are 34 comprehensive smoke-free ordinances that protect citizens from SHS in one or all workplaces, restaurants, and bars.

It is time for our legislators to protect the 85% of Alabamians not covered by comprehensive ordinances the 3rd leading cause of preventable death in the U.S. This includes all who live in unincorporated areas that must rely on a state law to protect them from SHS.

\$1 Per Pack Excise Tax Increase: A Health and Budget Win

Alabama collects 42 ½ cents per cigarette pack in excise taxes to offset an estimated \$8.97 per pack in health costs and productivity losses!

Smoking Prevention Benefits:

- •73,200 Alabama kids will not become addicted adult smokers
- •30,700 Alabamians will be saved from premature smoking-caused death

Revenue Generated for Alabama:

- •\$213.3 million in revenue generated annually even with reduced consumption
- •\$25.7 million in health savings from fewer heart attacks, strokes and pregnancy complications over a 5 year period

*Only 5 other states have lower cigarette tax than us: Georgia, Louisiana, Virginia, Missouri, & South Carolina *Mississippi, Tennessee and Florida have already experienced the health and budget benefits of a cigarette excise tax increase.

Strong Tobacco Retailer Licensing Law: Requiring Tobacco Retailer Fees for permits and licenses

A Win for Health

- •Help enforce tobacco control laws
- •Reduce access of tobacco to children

A Win for the Budget
The 2011 the Alabama Tobacco
non-compliance rate of retailers selling tobacco
products to minors is 7.6%. There is no
requirement for tobacco retailer employees to
attend the Responsible Vendor program. Currently,
in Alabama there is no permit fee required when
obtaining a permit.

Requiring tobacco retailers to attend a Responsible Vendor program, pay a fee for the permit, and require a yearly license fee could support increased compliance checks and sustain the tobacco prevention and control program.

www.tobaccofreealabama.net

SMOKE-FREE POLICIES

A Win for Alabama





A Budget Win for Alabama Smoke-free Policies:

(2011 Burden of Tobacco Report)

Smoke-free Policies: A Business Win

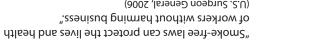
and safety:

Reduces employee absenteeism

Increases employee productivity

Positive effect on employee productivity

(U.S. Surgeon General, 2006)





respectively in the 6 months after the 2006

In Starkville & Hattiesburg Mississippi, heart attack

Dr. Donald Williamson, ADPH State Health Officer

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health and reduce the number of smokers.

medical and productivity costs each year.

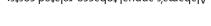
states that smoke-free laws improve worker's

smoke-free laws were passed.

- *Reduce tobacco consumption *Increase the number of quit attempts

would help to lower tobacco-related state budget

A decrease in the number of Alabama smokers



Alabama's annual tobacco-related costs:

- eshufion in direct health care expenditures
- \$238 million in Medicaid health expenditures \$3.78 billion in smoking-caused productivity losses
- The Alabama Department of Public Health
- Tobacco Prevention & Control Branch provides:
- Free training & assistance to implement smoke-free
- Free employee cessation counseling and workplace
- Smoke-free compliance checks by Area nicotine patches
- Coordinators



receipts in the year (2007) following their smoke-free

Opelika showed an increase in restaurant revenue

of smoke-free ordinances on revenue and

Eufaula, and Prattville found no negative effect

A 2006 Auburn University Study of Athens, Dothan,

(American Journal of Preventive Medicine, Dr. E.J. Hahn)

impact on restaurants and bars, and in some cases

found no clear evidence of a negative economic

A 2010 study of smoke-free laws across the U.S.

*Reduces maintenance & cleaning expenses from

*Reduces employer liability for exposed workers

•Smokers have 2x the number of work-related

Smokers are absent 7-10 more days/yr. than

Smoke breaks can average 4 hr./wk./employee

*Lowers fire and property insurance costs

Lower health care & health insurance costs

ordinance.

employment levels.

business improved.

swoke damage

Lowers Business Costs:

accidents

uou-swokers

Non-smoking hospitality workers exposed to

•30% more at risk for heart disease

collar workers •50% more likely to develop lung cancer than white

The Hospitality Industry

Lawrence M. Fidel, President,

work sites.

Alabama's 2nd largest employer:

Alabama Restaurant Association, 2011

Smoke-free Policies protect workers for

ment in all restaurants, bars & private clubs."

time to support a statewide smoke-free environ-

The Alabama Restaurant Association believes it is

places, including restaurants, continues to grow.

The trend toward non-smoking in all public

Key restaurant leader supports smoke-free law:

covering restaurants, bars, and in most cases other

Across the U.S., 29 states have already passed laws

*81% are likely to vote in the next election

*78% support smoke-free workplace laws

Support for smoke-free workplaces cuts across party

Smoke-Free

covering all offices, restaurants, and bars •76% of voters support smoke-free workplace laws

Smoke-free Policies: A Political Win

*79% hold government responsible for

protecting the public's health

Survey of Alabama Voters

•79% of Democrats

morì, from

•76% of Republicans

2011 Jefferson County Poll

2008 American Cancer Society