



Introduction

Annually, 440,000 deaths in the United States are smoking-related. Secondhand smoke kills an estimated 38,000 non-smoking Americans each year.¹ The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports consensus exists that secondhand smoke causes coronary heart disease, lung cancer, and adverse respiratory ailments in children and adults.² As of April 2008, 29 states had completely banned smoking from private-sector workplaces, restaurants, and/or bars, up from 8 states in 2005.³

- With the passage of **SB25**, Kansas will be able to ensure the ability of its citizens to breath safe uncontaminated air in indoor public places and workplaces.
- Over 70 percent of Kansans support a statewide smoke-free, clean indoor air law.¹

Public Health Concerns

- Smoking is the number one preventable cause of death in Kansas and 83% of Kansas adults believe it is a serious health hazard.⁴
- The California Environmental Protection Agency estimated that secondhand smoke exposure causes approximately 3,400 lung cancer deaths and 22,700–69,600 heart disease deaths annually among adult nonsmokers in the United States.⁵
- During an eight hour work shift in a smoky bar, a non-smoking employee can inhale the equivalent of 16 cigarettes.¹

Economic Impact

- A Statewide smoking ban would negate the idea that locally chosen smoking bans lead to an uneven playing field as businesses compete with other jurisdictions that may have no ban in place.⁶
- Kansas taxpayers spend **\$196 million annually** to cover the costs of smoking-related illness in the Medicaid program alone.¹
- Studies show that businesses in the hospitality industry do not lose jobs or taxable revenue when smoke-free policies are implemented.⁷

Positive Impact on Kansans

- In Kansas, 1.4 million working adults would benefit from working and living in a smoke-free environment.⁶
- Once comprehensive smoke-free policies are adopted, the health benefits are immediate, both among workers as well as the general population. Levels of indoor air pollution decrease by about 90%, providing significant benefits to respiratory and cardiac health.⁷
- Evidence has shown that statewide smoking bans decrease the smoking rate among active smokers by 5 percent, a potential decrease of 18,500 smokers in Kansas.³



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