

Committee Name:
**Senate Committee –
Higher Education and Tourism
(SC–HET)**

Appointments

03hr_SC–HET_Appt_pt00

Committee Hearings

03hr_SC–HET_CH_pt00

Committee Reports

03hr_SC–HET_CR_pt00

Clearinghouse Rules

03hr_SC–HET_CRule_03–

Executive Sessions

03hr_SC–HET_ES_pt00

Hearing Records

03hr_ab0207

03hr_sb0000

Misc.

03hr_SC–HET_Misc_pt00

Record of Committee Proceedings

03hr_SC–HET_RCP_pt00



March 3, 2004

PAPER BALLOT

Assembly Bill 207

Relating to: banning smoking in and around University of Wisconsin System residence halls and dormitories and providing a penalty.

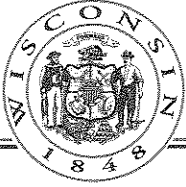
By Representatives Kreibich, Miller, Schneider, Hines, Ott, Boyle, Kerkman, Huber, J. Lehman, Wasserman, Owens, Ladwig, Ainsworth, Freese, Gunderson, Bies, Townsend, Morris and Vrakas; cosponsored by Senators Roessler, Lazich, Risser, A. Lasee, Schultz and Brown.

Aye	No
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Motion: Concurrence

Signature:

Please return to Senator Harsdorf's office by 12:00 PM,
Thursday, March 4, 2004.



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Aye	No
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Chuck Christo

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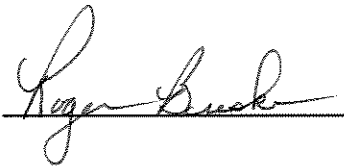
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If you have warning signs of heart attack or stroke, call 9-1-1 immediately! New treatments can make a difference if you act fast.



*Learn and Live*SM

Greater Midwest Affiliate
2850 Dairy Drive, Suite 300
Madison, WI 53718-6742
Tel 608.221.8866
Fax 608.221.9233
www.americanheart.org

DATE: March 3, 2004
TO: Members of the Senate Committee on Higher Education and Tourism
FROM: Jeff Ranous
Wisconsin Advocacy Director
(262) 271-4908
RE: Support for Assembly Bill 207
(Smoke-free University of Wisconsin System Dormitories)

The American Heart Association supports Assembly Bill 207 (AB207), which would assure that all dormitories and residence halls across the University of Wisconsin System be smoke-free. We respectfully ask that you act quickly, and favorably, on AB207 so this legislation is afforded the opportunity to be acted on by the full Senate before session's end.

Secondhand smoke is the third leading cause of preventable death in the United States. Each year 35,000 adult non-smokes die from heart disease resulting from exposure to secondhand smoke. Epidemiological studies have demonstrated that exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke is causally associated with coronary heart disease and it is estimated that involuntary smoking increases the risk of an acute coronary heart disease event by 25-35%. Further, smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke cause almost one-half of all strokes.

As publicly owned and operated buildings, we believe that the UW System dormitories and residence halls should provide a safe environment to all their residents, employees and visitors. AB207 will not only reduce the cleaning and maintenance costs associated with secondhand smoke it will most importantly help improve the health of our state's citizenry.

We urge you to act favorably on Assembly Bill 207 and would like to thank you in advance for your consideration.



Wisconsin Medical Society

Your Doctor. Your Health.

TO: Members of the Senate Higher Education and Tourism Committee

FROM: Alice O'Connor and Jeremy Levin

DATE: March 3, 2004

RE: SUPPORT: Assembly Bill 207

On behalf of the more than 10,000 members of the Wisconsin Medical Society, thank you for this opportunity to register our support for AB 207, a bill that would ban smoking in and around University of Wisconsin System residence halls and dormitories. The Wisconsin Medical Society strongly supports this bill. Not only does this bill promote tobacco prevention, but it will also prevent tobacco related diseases for students who smoke, or are exposed to second hand smoke, in UW dormitories and residence halls.

According to the *Journal of the National Cancer Institute*, non-smokers who live with smokers are exposed to cancer causing tobacco smoke carcinogens. Specifically, non-smokers who lived with smokers had six times higher elevated levels of cancer causing compounds that are only derived from tobacco smoke. Non-smoking roommates also have elevated levels of nicotine and cotinine, smoking-related chemicals. Other studies have shown that environmental tobacco smoke increases the risk of lung cancer for non-smokers who work where cigarette and cigar smoking is common, such as bars or taverns. Additionally, studies have shown that children living in the homes of smokers have a higher incidence of asthma and other respiratory problems.

Cigarette smoking also costs significant amounts of health care dollars that could be spent on prevention. The costs associated each year with smoking in Wisconsin are staggering:

- More than \$3 billion per year in health care expenses and lost productivity.
- Seventeen percent of all deaths in Wisconsin are attributed to smoking.
- More than \$100 million per year is attributable to second hand smoke treatment.

While tobacco addiction mostly occurs in minors, it is important to take any possible measures available to prevent tobacco smoking among our young adults. People begin to smoke in their teens when peer pressure is at its greatest. Once addicted, smokers find it tremendously difficult to quit as the physical dependence upon nicotine rivals that of many controlled substances. Limiting tobacco smoking in college housing may significantly decrease smoking rates among Wisconsin college students.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact Alice O'Connor (aliceo@wismed.org), Mark Grapentine (markg@wismed.org) or Jeremy Levin (jeremyl@wismed.org) at 608-442-3800 for further information.



Preserving the right to live and breathe tobacco free

**To: Senate Sheila Harsdorf, Chair
Members of Higher Education and Tourism Committee**
From: Maureen Busalacchi, SmokeFree Wisconsin
**RE: Support for Assembly Bill 207, Smokefree Residence Halls &
Dormitories**
Date: March 3, 2004

Thank you for hearing testimony today on the issue of smoke-free residence halls and dormitories in the University of Wisconsin System. SmokeFree Wisconsin supports this policy and encourages each of you to vote in favor of this legislation.

Our primary reason for supporting this policy is straightforward: smoke-free spaces save lives.

Credible studies demonstrate that secondhand smoke is lethal. In fact, the Center for Disease Control identifies secondhand smoke as the third leading cause of preventable death in the country. The Environmental Protection Agency classifies secondhand smoke as a Class A carcinogen, which means that there is no safe level of exposure. Secondhand smoke contains more than 4,000 chemicals; more than 200 are identified poisons, and more than 50 are known carcinogens. This is why SmokeFree Wisconsin supports policies that protect people from exposure to secondhand smoke.

When communities implement policies that prohibit smoking in shared spaces, non-smokers are protected from unnecessary exposure to toxins, and smokers are encouraged to cut back or quit. And most smokers, even college-age smokers, want to quit. The end result of smoke-free policies is that fewer people breathe smoke, either directly or secondhand, and the community becomes healthier.

This point was demonstrated quite vividly recently in Helena, MT. In 2002, that community enacted a smoke-free worksite ordinance for six months before the ordinance was challenged and smoking was again allowed. A study of medical records from that timeframe shows a 60% decrease in the number of Helena residents who had heart attacks during the time that the ordinance was in effect; the rate of heart attacks increased to pre-ordinance levels when smoking was reintroduced. This illustrates that smoke-free communities get healthy, and that they do so relatively quickly.

In your consideration of this legislation, you will likely hear two arguments against it: First, that separation and ventilation can accommodate smokers and non-smokers. Second, that it is inappropriate to regulate private living space, such as dorm rooms.

No building, even equipped with the best ventilation technology, can claim to be smoke-free if smoking is allowed in even one room. Ventilated areas may seem more pleasant because some of odors can be removed. But the toxins remain in the air and continue to circulate throughout the building. For this reason, ventilation manufacturers do not make any health claims for their products. To protect people from the health effects of secondhand smoke, the building must be smoke-free.

Regarding regulation of private living space, this is not an unreasonable or unusual thing to do. Living spaces, whether privately owned or rented, are often regulated in order to create a safer, more livable community. Further, landlords often regulate rental properties in order to maintain high property value—no pets, no waterbeds. Real estate agents and landlords say that it is more difficult to sell or rent a property that a smoker has lived in. Many landlords now have smoke-free policies because of the added cleaning and maintenance costs created by smoking—burned marks, stained walls and ceilings, odors in curtains and carpets. If private landlords are creating smoke-free policies to protect their property values, it is reasonable for the state to do so, too.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify, and I encourage you to vote in favor of this legislation that sets a healthy standard of living in our university and college communities. This is a great way to invest in the health of our state's future leaders.