

 **07hr_sb0150_SC-PHSILTCP_pt04**



WISCONSIN STATE
LEGISLATURE ...
PUBLIC HEARING
COMMITTEE RECORDS

2007-08

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

Committee on
Public Health, Senior
Issues, Long Term
Care and Privacy

(SC-PHSILTCP)

(FORM UPDATED: 07/02/2010)

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**
- Record of Comm. Proceedings ... **RCP**

**INFORMATION COLLECTED BY
COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST
PROPOSAL ...**

- Appointments ... **Appt**
 -  **Name:**
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule**
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions
(**ab** = Assembly Bill)
(**ar** = Assm. Resolution) (**ajr** = Assm. Joint Resolution)
(**sb** = Senate Bill)
(**sr** = Sen. Resolution) (**sjr** = Sen. Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**
 -  **Details:**

2007 SB 150

Un-Dated Single-Page Testimonies



Date?

To All Legislators:
Regarding SB150

I feel very nervous to be speaking to all of you. I am a Social Studies Middle School Teacher ~~of 34 years in the~~ Madison District, I teach the Democratic Process.

Addressing SB 150, I appreciate ^{your} ~~his~~ good intensions. I think SB 150 is taking away a major right of the American people. The so-called "Freedom of Choice".

How does this fare? Business owners are regulated on many levels, but as long as tobacco is a legal substance, and you are collecting revenues from cigarettes Owner's and Employees have Choices! As Governor Doyle stated ten weeks ago:

**I am a reasonable man. I know we don't live in a perfect world,
Therefore I could image some exemptions.**

Where did our fair Governor go over the past two months? We are NOT California, New York, Minnesota or Illinois. We are Wisconsin, where there is plenty of room for all, these special interests groups that have powerful financial backing will prevail, as Progressive Dane did in Madison.

These special interest groups know by taking smoking out of taverns it will destroy the independent businessperson. They don't care, but they also DO NOT frequent these establishments. As they were called in Fitchburg, "Blue Collar Bars". Give me a real neighborhood bar any day over a corporate chain.

~~I wrote to each of you in January on purple paper, I only heard from Senator Rissler.~~ I hope you all are considering ALL the people of your District, not just those that are the loudest.

If SB150 was truly a health issue, the Casinos, Private Clubs and Cigar Bars would not be exempt. Madison's Mayor didn't include these in his brutal smoking ban.

Please do not take away this class of socialization! If you do, you need to tax liquor and regulate what people purchase. If you are wavering please vote "No" on SB150 since no exemptions are allowed. (~~Rissler's version~~)

Please let the tavern and bar owners decide for themselves what type of clientele they want to serve, otherwise put it to a statewide referendum and then everyone can be heard.

I'm tired of fighting for our simple rights. As adolescence say, the more laws you make, more laws are made to be broken. You have more important work to be tending too, and please let the owners of their businesses regulate their business! Stop the 'Big Brother' control! Thanks for your time.

Jacqueline Strick
15240 Harbor Ct.
Madison, WI 53705

Ladies and Gentleman of the Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy, thank you for allowing me to speak. My name is Justin Wilder and I am a 21 year old student at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. At the age of 2 I was diagnosed with asthma, and have been fortunate enough to live comfortably with very few side effects. However, when I go to many of the fine dining establishments of Stevens Point, I find I can't stay for more than an hour due to the smoky atmosphere of the establishment. During the holidays, I am fortunate to live just outside of Madison and can go to any of the dining establishments of Madison without worry of my asthma getting out of control.

Members of the Committee, I ask you to please support Senate Bill 150, with no exceptions! Supporting this bill would dramatically raise the public health standard in our state; which will be followed by other states adopting Smoke-Free Legislation. The fact of this bill is simple: Passing smoke free legislation is good for everyone! According to the Mayo Clinic, "Tobacco Smoking is the most common cause of Lung Cancer...", and is "blamed for 85 to 90 percent of lung cancer cases." For those who work around tobacco smoke, the long term health risks are very real, and no person should have to go to work with the worry of contracting a disease because of tobacco smoke. Once again, I thank you for allowing me to speak, and please support Senate Bill 150 with no exceptions! Thank you.

Date?
SB 150

Senate Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy Committee

Sen. Tim Carpenter, Chair (D-Milwaukee)
Sen. Spencer Coggs, V-Chair (D-Milwaukee)
Sen. Pat Krietlow (D-Chippewa Falls)
Sen. Dale Schultz (R-Southwest-central Wisconsin)
Sen. Rob Cowles (R-Green Bay)

SB 150?
Date ?

Senate Committee Members,

Nine years ago my wife and I adopted our second child, an infant born with a heart congenital condition. When she was seven months old, we spent three weeks at Milwaukee Children's Hospital for her subsequent surgery and intensive care rehabilitation. As part of her continued care then and to this day, the pediatric cardiologist recommended that she (like anyone) avoid places that contain secondhand smoke.

Fast forward a few years and our young daughter who is now leading a healthy life, gets invited to friends' birthday parties as most children do. Our concern however was where these parties were held. Since bowling is a great activity, some parents set up birthday parties at the local bowling alley. Try explaining to a six or seven year old however, that they can't attend a friend's party due to the fact that the location it is held at has an unhealthy atmosphere. It's something they don't really understand and are puzzled as to why a fun place would not be a good place to go to.

Fortunately, in the past few years, we have succeeded in educating other families and our schools that the local alley is not a great place to hold a party due to the fact of the secondhand smoke issue and there are now far fewer parties held at the bowling alley (which I suppose is not good news for them). It is ironic that children and adults participating in a fun recreational activity and getting some exercise have to do so in a contaminated environment.

Five years ago just a handful of states were bold enough to enact comprehensive statewide laws for secondhand smoke protection. Now there are over 20 with more moving forward. If these laws became the "death of businesses" why would so many states be enacting them? Common sense says otherwise.

The mark of an intelligent, informed society is progress. We make progress through medicine, science, technology, research, etc. Think of the examples- we regulate mercury levels so edible fish are not contaminated, we banned DDT to save eagles and other raptors, we regulate asbestos in workplaces, we watch for contaminated food products and have recalls- the list goes on.

Minnesota our neighbor has taken the positive step and enacted a comprehensive law. There are many similarities between our two states – the north woods flavor, lakes and forests, and similar culture. When the media announced that legislation was passed in Minnesota, they quoted it as a "good day and proud day" for the state. Wisconsin should also protect its workers and citizens and be true to its motto "Forward." Everyone deserves this; whether it is a small child at a birthday party, as well as any citizen or employee in any workplace in our great state.

Jeff Melby
632 Silver Lake Drive
Portage, WI 53901

Date ?

What will we be remembered for?

The discussion we are having today is about an important decision, a decision that will change history, a decision that will be remembered. Will we protect people from second hand smoke in all public places in WI or only some?

It reminds me of another time in history that a public health decision was made, that changed history and that is still remembered today. You may have heard of the Tuskegee Study.

When the Tuskegee study started 75 years ago...syphilis was an awful disease but the only treatment available was also awful. After the study started, new information led to a newer, safer treatment...penicillin.

This was when a critical decision was made...that treatment was made available to some people but not all. Treatment was withheld from the men participating in the study.

Information and treatment that would have improved people's health was not shared equally. That is the decision that is remembered...and that is the parallel that we face today in Wisconsin. Today, you have the power to protect all Wisconsin residents equally.

What will we be remembered for today?

We now have solid evidence that second hand smoke is dangerous to our health.

We have a proven strategy, a state-wide smoke free air law, that protects all people equally from that danger.

Today a decision will be made. What will we be remembered for? Protecting some Wisconsin residents....or all?

Respectfully submitted by Julie Swanson
27 Frederick Circle, Madison, WI

SB 150?



RESOLUTION # 9-4107

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ITEM # 31/4

BOARD ACTION

Adopted: _____
For: 27
Against: 11
Abs/Excd: 2
Vote Req: _____
Other Action: Amended

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD ACTION

Adopted: 4/10/07
For: 7
Against: —
Abs/Excd: 2

RE: SUPPORT SMOKE-FREE WORKPLACE AND TOBACCO TAX INCREASE LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's proposed 2007-2009 budget includes legislation that recommends that all workplaces in Wisconsin are smoke-free and that the tax on cigarettes be increased by \$1.25 per pack; and,

WHEREAS, exposure to tobacco smoke is the major cause of preventable illness and death in La Crosse County, causing about 130 deaths per year; and,

WHEREAS, raising the price of tobacco products and assuring smoke-free workplaces have both been shown to significantly reduce disease and death,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this resolution be sent to Governor Doyle, Wisconsin Senator Kapanke, Wisconsin Representatives Huebsch and Shilling and the Wisconsin Counties Association to encourage them to protect the health of the people of La Crosse County by approving the proposal for smoke-free workplaces and tobacco tax increase.

COUNTY BOARD AMENDMENT: To add: Tobacco tax to be used exclusively for tobacco education programs,

Date: 4/10/07
[Signature]
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD CHAIR

Date: 4/10/07
Cheryl A. Stephen
RECORDING CLERK

Approved _____ Not Approved _____
C/A: 52 4/4/07
F/D: 67 4/11/07

Requested By: Doug Mormann
Date Requested: March 30, 2007
Drafted By: Corporation Counsel

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board This 17 Day of April, 2007.

Date?

Members of Senate Public Health Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony today.

I am Judi Zabel, Health Educator at La Crosse County Health Department. I am submitting evidence of La Crosse Counties support for SB 150.

On March 13th, 2007 during a public hearing regarding a smoke free work site ordinance in the city of Onalaska a La Crosse tavern owner, who also stated he was the head of Be Fair Coalition (a local group in opposition to the local ordinance in Onalaska), made the following statements as printed in the hearing minutes, " I hope you really think about this (meaning the Onalaska Ordinance) and push it to a state and make it a level playing field....if you do it, force it state wide..."

On April 10, 2007 the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution recommending legislation that all work places in Wisconsin are smoke free. Exposure to tobacco smoke is the major cause of preventable illness and death in La Crosse County, causing about 130 deaths per year. The La Crosse County Board also resolute that copies of this resolution is sent to Gov. Doyle, Wisconsin Senator Kapanke, Wisconsin Representatives Huebsch and Shilling and the Wisconsin Counties Assoc. to encourage them to protect the health of the people of La Crosse County by approving the proposal for smoke-free workplaces.

It is time for action! It is time for us to join our neighboring states Minn., and Illinois, and be the 21st state to protect the health of the silent majority. It is popular and right thing to do. Nearly two thirds of all voters support a statewide effort to protect workers and patrons of businesses from second hand smoke. As I noted earlier, a member of the Be Fair Coalition and a bar owner in the city of La Crosse favor the statewide Breathe Free Act because it levels the playing field for all businesses and eliminates islands of competition where smoking is allowed.

L a Crosse county board of supervisors supports smoke free workplace legislation for all businesses and encourages you to move the State of Wisconsin forward on this important health issue.

Senate Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy Committee

Sen. Tim Carpenter, Chair (D-Milwaukee)
Sen. Spencer Coggs, V-Chair (D-Milwaukee)
Sen. Pat Krietlow (D-Chippewa Falls)
Sen. Dale Schultz (R-Southwest-central Wisconsin)
Sen. Rob Cowles (R-Green Bay)

SB 150 ?
Date ?

Senate Committee Members,

Nine years ago my wife and I adopted our second child, an infant born with a heart congenital condition. When she was seven months old, we spent three weeks at Milwaukee Children's Hospital for her subsequent surgery and intensive care rehabilitation. As part of her continued care then and to this day, the pediatric cardiologist recommended that she (like anyone) avoid places that contain secondhand smoke.

Fast forward a few years and our young daughter who is now leading a healthy life, gets invited to friends' birthday parties as most children do. Our concern however was where these parties were held. Since bowling is a great activity, some parents set up birthday parties at the local bowling alley. Try explaining to a six or seven year old however, that they can't attend a friend's party due to the fact that the location it is held at has an unhealthy atmosphere. It's something they don't really understand and are puzzled as to why a fun place would not be a good place to go to.

Fortunately, in the past few years, we have succeeded in educating other families and our schools that the local alley is not a great place to hold a party due to the fact of the secondhand smoke issue and there are now far fewer parties held at the bowling alley (which I suppose is not good news for them). It is ironic that children and adults participating in a fun recreational activity and getting some exercise have to do so in a contaminated environment.

Five years ago just a handful of states were bold enough to enact comprehensive statewide laws for secondhand smoke protection. Now there are over 20 with more moving forward. If these laws became the "death of businesses" why would so many states be enacting them? Common sense says otherwise.

The mark of an intelligent, informed society is progress. We make progress through medicine, science, technology, research, etc. Think of the examples- we regulate mercury levels so edible fish are not contaminated, we banned DDT to save eagles and other raptors, we regulate asbestos in workplaces, we watch for contaminated food products and have recalls- the list goes on.

Minnesota our neighbor has taken the positive step and enacted a comprehensive law. There are many similarities between our two states – the north woods flavor, lakes and forests, and similar culture. When the media announced that legislation was passed in Minnesota, they quoted it as a "good day and proud day" for the state. Wisconsin should also protect its workers and citizens and be true to its motto "Forward." Everyone deserves this; whether it is a small child at a birthday party, as well as any citizen or employee in any workplace in our great state.

Jeff Melby
632 Silver Lake Drive
Portage, WI 53901

To: Committee Members
Re: Smoke Free Air Bill, SB 150
From: Steve Anderson
Danbury, Wisconsin

Date?

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

At the age of 56 my father passed away of a massive heart attack caused by his smoking addiction, while my mother lived her last decade of life having difficulty breathing.

My father only lived long enough to be a grandfather for a short 5 years, and his grandchildren never had the opportunity of enjoying his life stories nor his advice. For me, as presently a grandfather, I still suffer the consequences of breathing the air of others whom smoked including the inability to enter any room or establishment where there is smoking.

But you will undoubtedly hear many stories like this and most likely worse of those who have suffered from the results of second hand smoke.

The past is something we cannot change, but we can send a clear message to the future - one of clean air for the citizens of Wisconsin. And our grandchildren will not have to suffer the variety of consequences of an addiction that is both costly in dollars to purchase and even worse on the economics of our health care system.

You know very well that our neighbors have endorsed their clean air bills. You are fully aware that the World Health Organization has endorsed a need to have a universal plan to eliminate the ills of second hand smoke along with plans to help those who smoke to stop. We all know that entire countries have now embraced the concept of clean air for their citizens - and they have been highly successful in the support given by businesses and individuals.

Therefore, let's do what many business groups have said is the best way to do so for the State of Wisconsin - including at first the Tavern League and presently the Wisconsin Restaurant Association and many others. Please pass a State Wide clean air bill that will make sure that all businesses work from the same rule book.

And, please feel comfortable that this kind of governmental action is similar to what is done now when we make sure restaurants and other establishments are checked to make sure they are safe places for clients and guests to enjoy food and services.

While it is difficult to avoid the politicization of this process, doing the right thing to protect all the citizens from unhealthy activities while making sure those that work hard as entrepreneurs can continue to prosper based upon their products, service and pricing - not whether someone must light up.

Thank you for your efforts to bring us in line with the tide of clean air.

Dear Members of the Senate Public Health Committee,
Dear Rep. Jon Richards and Senator Jeff Plale,

SB 150?
Date?

I am writing to convey my strong feeling that it is time to have a universal ban on smoking in all workplaces in the State. The evidence is in that second hand smoke is hazardous to health and we should take the next step and protect our work force. As a business owner, I am aware of the need for good health to maintain my business. I do not allow customers to smoke in our work space because I believe protecting the health of my customers and my workers is basic to my regard for them, and basic to the efficiency of my business. There is no reason to make exception to this rule as a concession to the entertainment of the customer. Young workers are often forced to take jobs in smoke-filled environments because they do not have the wide range of skills that an older person enjoys. Give our young people a break and protect their health.

Sincerely,
William Sell
2827 S. Lenox St.
Milwaukee, WI 53207
414-744-3970

The Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy.

My name is Lisa Valenta, and as a cancer survivor I urge you to support SB 150, the Breathe Free WI Act, with no exemptions.

My husband and I don't like to go out to places that allow smoking. We like to go listen to live music and often the smoke is unbearable.

As someone concerned about the health of all Wisconsinites, please support a comprehensive statewide smoking ban. NOW is the time—we cannot afford to wait.

Thanks for your consideration of this critical issue, that impacts so many people.

Sincerely,



Lisa Valenta
5046 State Road 29
Green bay WI 54311
920-863-8760



The Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy:

I am a nurse in ICU at St. Elizabeths' Hospital in Appleton, WI. I see the effects of smoking everyday. I believe it is very important to change Wisconsin to be smoke free. Also, as a non-smoker I am in favor of the bill SB150. Wisconsin should join the other states that have smoking bans and become a leader for other states to follow. Please help make this happen so Wisconsin can become a leader in healthy changes.

Thank you for your time,

Dayton Roloff
bmx2girl@new.rr.com
920-284-0918
717 6th St. Menasha, WI

Date?
SB 150

Dear members on the Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy,

I am for the right to walk anywhere with out someone else's smoke. For our children to be able to have a world without being sick because of someone else's selfishness. Our health care is so out of control..... I can't even afford to go to the hospital when sick because I have a 5,000 deduct able and so you wait it out. Trying to stay healthy is an issue and we need to do this for all and this may in fact help some people to quit smoking. It is about time we focus on how to keep healthy.....

Please support SB 150.

Thanks for your consideration.

Kathleen Zeitler
1159 10th Ave.
Green Bay, WI 54304
inspiredbylife@juno.com

Date?

Dear Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy,

I am in full support of a smoke-free Wisconsin. Please help improve the health of our state by supporting SB 150. Thank you.

Dr. Amy S. Lahay

Optometrist

1550 Midway Place

Menasha, WI 54952

Wk Ph 920-727-8280
alahay@affinityhealth.org

Home contact info:

W1729 Ray Rd.
De Pere, WI 54115
920-687-1736

Date?

Date?

Dear members on the Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy,

I am for the right to walk anywhere with out someone else's smoke. For our children to be able to have a world without being sick because of someone else's selfishness. Our health care is so out of control..... I can't even afford to go to the hospital when sick because I have a 5,000 deduct able and so you wait it out. Trying to stay healthy is an issue and we need to do this for all and this may in fact help some people to quit smoking. It is about time we focus on how to keep healthy.....

Please support SB 150.

Thanks for your consideration.

Kathleen Zeitler
1159 10th Ave.
Green Bay, WI 54304
inspiredbylife@juno.com

Date?

To: The Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy

I am Scott Doerr. I manage a local Bar and Restaurant in the Merrill Area. I am writing to you to let you know I am totally in favor of SB 150 (The Breathe Free Wisconsin Act) and I ask your support. I have worked in bars and restaurants for about 25 years just to make ends meet financially. I have been exposed to second hand smoke throughout those 25 years. During that time I have developed adult asthma which my Doctor has attributed to exposure of second hand smoke. As a child, I also lived with my parents who were also smokers.

Just recently I hired a bartender who needed extra money. She became pregnant and based on her doctors suggestion and her concern for her unborn baby being exposed to the hazards of second hand smoke, she had to quit.

How long are we going to sit back and expose workers and non smoking customers to second hand smoke, and make them choose between their health and additional income?

Our establishment is a Member of the Tavern League of Wisconsin. I do not take their stand on this issue. In my opinion The Tavern League is not representing the Customers or the workers of the establishments they represent. Remember lowering the BAC?

You may ask why our establishment doesn't go smoke free? I answer to over 250 members who have went as far as making the dining room smoke free, but are hesitant to do so in the Bar. This is an ongoing educational process. There is also the feeling that the State or the City will pass a smoke free law which, if required would eliminate smoking in our facility. They are ok with that because everyone would be smoke free.

We need to pass SB 150 with absolutely no exceptions. This will insure a level playing field for all establishments in Wisconsin. Please support SB 150.

Sincerely Yours,
Scott Doerr
908 N Cleveland St.
Merrill, WI 54452
715-536-2231
sadoerr02@msn.com

The Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care & Privacy:

Date?

I am writing in support of SB 150 and would be relieved greatly as a Wisconsin resident, mother and grandmother, if this bill passes. Too many lives are at risk and too many health factors have been proven to be caused by second-hand smoke. If someone does drugs, they harm themselves; if they drink excessively, they harm themselves; if they smoke they harm themselves but additionally the health of others. To subject others to something that is so harmful should not be allowed publicly. If they choose to harm themselves or endanger their lives, it's their choice but they need to respect the health of others. When someone drives under the influence, they greatly endanger their lives and others on the road so most logically, it is against the law and they will pay a dear penalty if caught doing it. I believe smoking and second-hand smoke is a deadly habit and to protect & preserve the public's health in public venues, we need to act NOW!

I am in full support of SB 150 and pray it passes. Thank you for hearing my plea as a concerned Wisconsin resident and citizen.

Respectfully,

Christine Seidl, Board President
Beacon House, Inc.
430 S. Webster Ave.
Green Bay, WI 54301
PH: 920-676-1146
email: cseidl@beaconhouseinc.org

To: The Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy

I would support SB150 because my father has quite a bit of breathing problems and asthma. I have had several family members sick from cancer caused by smoking or second hand smoke.

I hope you will support SB150, too.

Thank you.

Patty Roloff
1343 Julie Court
Neenah, WI 54956
(920) 729-5761

Date ?

To The Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy

Date?

I would like you to support SB 150, the Breathe Free WI Act, making all worksites smoke free, no exemptions.

I started smoking when I was 11, my Dad smoked 5 packs a day; the commercials were cool. By age 24, I smoked 4 to 5 packs a day. Growing up with all the smoke I developed bronchial asthma and have allergies. Now I can't be long in any space with smoke or it will trigger an asthma attack. My Dad died of lung cancer complications. My mother who never smoked, developed cancer, too.

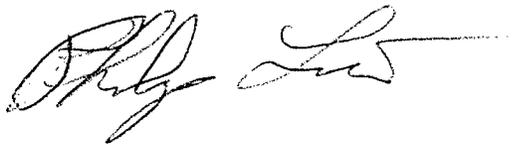
I quit over 20 years ago and still have breathing problems, that get worse as time goes on. Children should not be subjected to smoke by adults who choose to impose the health risks of second hand smoke on others. The cost in healthcare and lost time from school and work are staggering. The truth of how the tobacco companies have lied and continue to try and addict children in this and third world countries can no longer be swept under the rug.

We all must take action so future generations at least will not be subjected to the health risks of tobacco in normal everyday life, without a choice on their part. Please think of all those who have died that never smoke but had to work in an unhealthy environment that caused their death. Act now, the life you save may be your child or grandchild!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Philip Lioce
817 N Chestnut Ave
Green Bay, WI 54303



To: The Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy

Date ?

I am writing to ask you to *please* support SB 150.

This July, I will become a five year cancer survivor. I was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma when I was 16 years old, and underwent nearly six months of chemotherapy and 3 weeks of radiation in order to beat the disease.

Unfortunately, the chemotherapy that saved my life also wreaked havoc on my lungs. My doctor estimates that about 50% of certain pulmonary functions have been lost. For a girl who ran cross country, and played both basketball and softball in high school, hearing that was quite a blow.

Now that I am 21, I greatly enjoy going out to the bars with my friends and family. In Madison, where I am a student at the UW, it's fantastic because I get to enjoy a smoke-free evening. My eyes aren't irritated at the bars, my clothes and hair don't reek when I come home, and most importantly I don't have to worry about doing further damage to my lungs by breathing in all that second-hand smoke.

I rarely hear people complaining about having to step outside to the sidewalk or a patio to have a cigarette, and most of the news reports I hear seem to say business has not noticeably suffered since the city adopted its smoking ban. Though I understand where the "mom and pop" bars in smaller communities are coming from in opposing this bill, perhaps they should think about the business they may attract if they are smoke free. I don't enjoy myself nearly as much when I go out outside of Madison, and sometimes avoid it altogether.

Twenty other states have already passed bills similar to this one. Public support for SB 150 is starting to grow. It's time to wake up, Wisconsin! If everyone could sacrifice 5 minutes of their time to step outside and have a smoke, in order to provide a healthy environment for employees and patrons, our state could become a much healthier place!

Thank you,
Danielle Berkovitz
314 N. Broom St.
Apt. 1
Madison, WI 53703

berkovitz@wisc.edu

The Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy:

Date?

My purpose for being here is to share why I strongly support SB-150, the comprehensive 100% smoke free workplace policy, WITH NO EXEMPTIONS!!

In 1973, after nine years in personal banking, the President asked me to be a lender which was in another area of the bank. I agreed not knowing that the seven men I was to work with were constant smokers. After several hours I could not take the smoke; my eyes watered, and I was losing my voice. I then asked the President if I could return to Personal Banking, or I would need to quit. We had monthly programs for all employees, and he asked me to have a program on the effects of smoking, since I was in charge of programs. The program was presented by a city nurse, showing that second hand smoke killed the mice. Their lungs were black, and it was gross.

Naturally it was hard for the smokers to believe this could happen to people. But the President did believe, and stated that smoking would not be allowed in the bank. The men were very unhappy with me, and several eventually did leave the bank. Unfortunately, several of those former employees did die of lung cancer later. I did stay in the lending area for 27 years, as we had clean indoor air. I also shared this experience with other lending institutions and businesses, and they voluntarily went smoke free with the new data.

But this progress is still NOT ENOUGH and takes TOO LONG to provide everyone with a smoke free workplace.

The Surgeon General's 2006 report concluded that second hand smoke causes premature death and disease in children and adults who do not smoke.

Children exposed to second hand smoke are at increased risk for sudden infant death syndrome, respiratory infections, ear problems, and more severe asthma. Too many people still suffer from the deadly effects of secondhand smoke.

Why would we allow this to continue? Therefore, I am asking for your help to pass SB 150-with NO EXEMPTIONS!

Thank you,



Mary Ann Berger
Advocate for the American Cancer Society
3669 Glendale Ave
Green Bay, WI 54313
Maberger1@sbcglobal.net

SB 150?
Date?

To The Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy:

For the past 37 years I have worked at Appleton Medical Center, and presently Theda Care Cancer Institute. I have seen what smoking can do to the people who choose to smoke and what it can do to the health of family members.

Second hand smoke is proven to be just as deadly to the people who do not choose to smoke, as to those who do.

I am pleading with you to be open and honest in your decision to make the state of Wisconsin a smoke free environment. It may help those who are thinking about quitting or trying to quit, giving them the incentive they need to actually make that huge step to save their lives and those they love. Thank you for your sincere consideration on this very serious issue.

Colleen Froehlich
Theda Care Cancer Institute
1818 N. Meade St.
Appleton, WI 54911
colleen.froehlich@thedacare.org

The Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy:

SB 150?
Date?

As an Appleton doctor and active proponent of a smoking ban I wish to have you vote on a very strong ban in all public buildings. Consider modeling it after our ban. Our business owners are learning that business is equal or better than before the ban. Our health as a community is better.

Please vote for a very strong state wide ban!!!

Thank you,

Douglas Grant M.D.

3329 N. Richmond St

Appleton, WI 54911

920-380-2715

dgrant@affinityhealth.org

SB150?
Date?

To The Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy:

Smokers propose they have the right to smoke, disregarding the health warnings on the label and by health care providers. Knowing that statistics have proven that it effects your health they continue to protest " their free right to smoke," especially in public places.

As a non-smoker I protest my right to live in a smoke free enviroment. I would love to go out to eat, dance and socialize in a clean air surrounding. Getting home from being out in a smoke filled room is not fun. We have to leave all our clothes in the garage and take a shower and wash our hair so we can sleep without smelling like smoke.

Thank you for the consideration of a statewide smoke free law.

Ron Froehlich
2854 Crossing Ct.
Appleton, WI. 54913
rcbiking@hotmail.com

Date?

The Committee on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy:

As a reformed smoker-(I have been smoke free for 6 years and my husband for 5 years-he quit when our first child was born), I can honestly say it was the best decision I ever made and truly hate to be in/around places where smoking is allowed.

I certainly will not bring my children to any place where they can be affected by secondhand smoke. Smoking is a costly and deadly habit which results in horrendous medical bills and it always seems the ones who have to seek medical attention due to a health related issue because they're smokers, have no health insurance or are on state assistance, I.E.-(Medicaid, SSI), etc and the medical industry which is my field pays the price as the taxpayers do.

This habit also is expensive considering the cost to buy cigarettes, cigars, etc when that person's \$\$\$ can be used towards necessary things like food and bills. Smoking pollutes the air we breathe and when smoking materials are handled carelessly, cause fire damage to homes, other dwellings and our beautiful forests/parks, etc which in turn affects insurance premiums for everyone as the insurance industry has to cover their losses by passing on higher premiums to everyone, smokers or not.

This habit benefits nobody or our environment and therefore, I am supporting Governor Doyle's suggestion to do away with smoking in this state for good. Please pass on my vote to get this bill, SB 150, passed right away to preserve our health and our environment from further damage.

Sincerely,

Teresa A. Van Remortel
643 S. Huron St.
De Pere, WI 54115

P/N: (920) 347-0833 Home
P/N: (920) 490-3790 Ext: 3951 or 3873
(Oneida Behavioral Health Center).
Cell P/N: (920) 360-3273
TVANREMO@oneidanation.org

To The Committee of Public Health,
Senior Issues, Long Term Care & Privacy:

Date?

My name is Phil Kohre as a Concerned Citizen, retired City Alderman of 18 yrs, member of The Kaukauna Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Abuse (KATODA) Prevention Board do fully support SB 150 without any modifications.

As responsible law makers you represent all Wisconsin residents health and safety concerns. Our children, grandchildren & young adults learn from the older generation the choices we make in life. Good choices is the preferred if government can help in offering these choices. All the programs and talk thots being offered will not stop people from suffering from illnesses caused by second hand smoke.

In Kaukauna as an Alderman 4 of the eight members tried in vain to pass a smoke free work place in our community. The majority of community residents I had spoke with agreed to a total smoke free work place.

I now can only ask that you help by passing SB 150 with no modifications to leave a legacy for our children & future generations a smoke free environment so that their hard earned money is spent on themselves and not on rising health care costs associated to second hand smoke.

Thank you

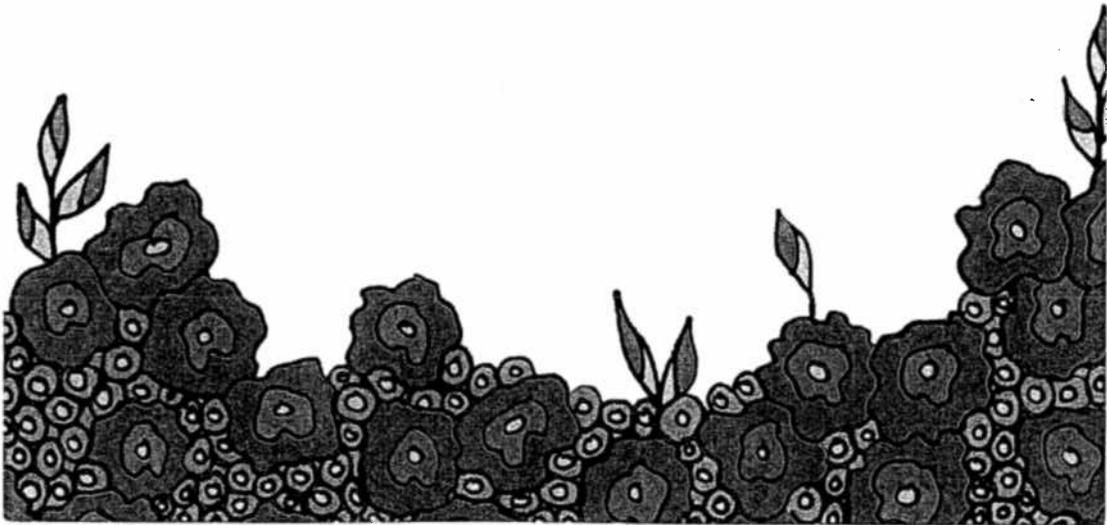
920-966-9014
Kaukauna 54136

Phil Kohre
2106 Old Country Cir

Date?

To Senator Cowles, and committee members:
I am writing to support Senate bill 150 to prohibit smoking in places of employment, restaurants, taverns & other indoor areas. I believe Madison & Appleton have supported this law, and it has worked out rather well. Healthwise, this Bill truly makes good sense!

Mary Lou Jackels



Healthy Washington County Tobacco Free Coalition

Phone: 262-335-4464
Fax: 262-335-4705
www.co.washington.wi.us/chn

SB 150?

Washington County Health Department ♦♦ 333 E. Washington St. Suite 1100 PO Box 2003 West Bend WI 53095

RESOLUTION TO REDUCE THE BURDEN OF TOBACCO IN WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, Every year over 16,400 Wisconsin children become addicted to tobacco, of whom more than one-third will die prematurely because of this addiction; and,

WHEREAS, Significantly increasing Wisconsin's excise tax on cigarettes would drastically reduce the number of children who become addicted to tobacco, save over \$1 billion in health care costs, and provide hundreds of millions of dollars per year in additional state revenues; and,

WHEREAS, Fully funding the state's Tobacco Prevention and Control Program would effectively reduce smoking rates through public education efforts, counter-marketing, community and school-based programs and providing services to help smokers quit; and,

WHEREAS, The 2006 U.S. Surgeon General's Report, *The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke*, concluded that secondhand smoke exposure causes disease and premature death in children and adults who do not smoke.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that in an effort to effectively reduce the burden of tobacco in Wisconsin, the undersigned organization supports:

- Increasing the Wisconsin excise tax on cigarettes by at least \$1.25 per pack with the revenue generated being directed to fund the Medical Assistance Program and Wisconsin's Tobacco Prevention and Control Program
- Ensuring that in order to most effectively reduce the burden of tobacco, Wisconsin's comprehensive Tobacco Prevention and Control Program is funded at \$31 million per year, which is equal to the Centers for Disease Control minimum funding recommendation
- Providing smoke-free environments in all indoor public places and workplaces to protect Wisconsin's residents against secondhand smoke.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the undersigned organization:

- Will inform its members and, if possible, the general public, of its endorsement of this Resolution.
- Agrees to be added to a list of supporters which will be utilized in educational efforts for this initiative.

Signed on 5/2/07 by Charlene J. Brady
(date) (authorized signature)

Name of Organization: Washington County Board of Health

Number of Members (if applicable): 6

Contact Person: Charlene Brady, BOH Chairperson
Linda Walter, Health Officer Washington County Health Dept.
Contact Person's email: _____

Phone: (262) 306-2231 Fax: (262) 335-4463

Mailing Address: 333 E. Washington Street, Suite 1100

City: West Bend, WI Zip Code: 53095

Date?

**TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC HEALTH, SENIOR ISSUES, LONG TERM CARE & PRIVACY
Regarding SB 150, the Breathe Free Wisconsin Act**

Chairman Carpenter, Members of the Committee:

My name is Patricia Finder-Stone. I am a Registered Nurse and I live at 985 N. Broadway, De Pere, WI. I have spent much of my nursing career both in hospitals and hospice caring for people whose lives have been shortened or ended thanks to a tobacco environment. I urge your support for SB 150.

I serve on the Midwest Board of the American Cancer Society, and I'm a strong advocate for the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association, and the WI Nurse's Association as well. Our groups have worked diligently over the years to protect the public's health from the consummate corporate charlatans, the tobacco industry. It *does* like to lobby legislators! So we count on you to be strong and to do the right thing and to demonstrate your political will as you *promote clean, healthy air in all workplaces*!!

This is not a radical idea. Many countries, states, and hundreds of local governments have enacted 100% smoke free workplaces. We lag behind much of the nation in implementing policies protecting the public from 2nd hand smoke. If we can have 100% smoke-free workplaces, everyone gets to breathe clean air. It is good sound public health policy. I spoke with a bartender in Green Bay who told me how he detested the smoking environment in which he worked...and how he went home at night and shampooed and showered before he crawled in bed with his wife because he smelled so strongly of smoke. But it wasn't just the smell that bothered him! He was deeply concerned about the effects of the smoky atmosphere and what it was doing to his health...short term and long term! He was a non-smoker.

Make no mistake about it! Massive and conclusive evidence about the adverse effects of 2nd hand smoke were clearly documented in the Surgeon General's report just this past year and he stated, "There is NO safe level of second hand smoke...absolutely none!" WE CANNOT ALLOW THIS PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARD TO CONTINUE!

I note that the bill had no state fiscal estimate. It did not address the money WI can save in health care costs ...1.6 b. spent each year on health care costs of tobacco related illness (\$422 m. in Medicaid costs alone)!!

But the costs go beyond dollars...to disability and death. Just this month, the Institute of Medicine reported that for every 8 smokers who die from smoking, one non-smoker dies from secondhand smoke exposure. I speak to you with personal pain...having lost my entire birth family to diseases related to smoking. I miss them terribly! My dad didn't see me graduate to become an RN, or be present at my wedding. My parents never knew their beautiful grandchildren. And I can't share sibling memories because my only sister died from lung cancer. They suffered. And I still suffer! In closing, I urge you to do the right thing to promote a Healthier Wisconsin. Support SB 150!!! Thank you.

**Patricia Finder-Stone, MS, RN...985 N. Broadway, De Pere
stone@netnet.net 920-0336-4187**

Date?

Dear Committee members on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy,

Unfortunately I am unable to attend the Public Hearing for SB 150, but I'd like to take this opportunity to offer a written testimony to show my support in favor of a 100% smoke free Wisconsin, no exemptions.

I have had mixed feelings about this issue in the past, however due to some recent personal experiences I felt compelled to speak out in favor of a SB150 and am asking you to do the same.

My father was a pastor who was taught to smoke in the seminary, as a way to rid the body of illnesses after meeting with the sick and elderly. It is no surprise to me today the impact of the tobacco industry had on my father's life. He smoked until he died a painful death from emphysema in 1991. My mother on the other hand, has never smoked in her life. However this past week she was diagnosed with her 3rd round of cancer, and this time treatment is not an option. Looking at all the possibilities, it appears that her 40 plus years of exposure to my father's secondhand smoke was a likely cause to her cancer.

Beyond being a daughter, I am also a mother to 4 wonderful children, all who have spent some time as a bartender. While you may say they had a choice to work at these professions, at the point in their lives, it was the best option for the money they made. Today I have 2 sons who continue to work part-time as bartenders on the weekends. It is a profession that they enjoy and make good money doing. However, as a mother I am devastated knowing that each time they go to work for the night, they are being exposed to thousands of toxic chemicals. Even in the Supper Clubs in New London, people are forced to wait in a smoke ridden Tavern while waiting for a table in the Smoke Free Dining area of the restaurant.

I understood why I lost my father, he chose to smoke. But I don't understand how we can let thousands of people die each day from secondhand smoke and not do our best to stop it! I am asking you to take a step back, and imagine how you would feel if you were in my shoes. What if your son or daughter didn't smoke, but someone else slowly took their life? How would you feel being a caretaker for someone struggling to breathe due to lung cancer, but they never smoked?

I am asking you to protect my children. I am asking that all smokers should go outside to smoke. I am asking you to prevent me from having to watch another loved one wither away from the effects of tobacco and secondhand smoke. I am asking you to vote in support of SB 150 and protect everyone's right to breathe clean indoor air!



Kathy Foster

N4728 Madden Rd.

New London, WI 54961

(920) 982-2386

Date?
SB150?

Dear committee member on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term and Privacy,

Good Afternoon, my name is Heidi Foster. I live at 829 Michael Ritger St. in the Village of Hortonville. I am here today to this committee with information of the impact of a statewide smoking ban, no exemptions.

My grandfather was a Lutheran Minister that was taught to smoke in the Seminary, as a way to rid the body of germs after meeting with the sick and elderly. It is no surprise to me today that my grandfather was deeply addicted to his cigarettes. He smoked until he died an agonizing death from Emphysema in 1991. My grandmother on the other hand, had never smoked in her life. However this past week she was diagnosed with her 3rd round of cancer, and this time treatment is not an option. Looking at all the possibilities, it appears that her 40 plus years of exposure to second hand smoke greatly contributed to her cancer diagnosis.

Beyond being a granddaughter, I am also a sister to 3 brothers. All of my brothers and I have spent some time as a bartender. It was a job that I loved, but I was forced to leave due to problems with my asthma. Currently my baby brother still bartends at a Supper Club in New London on the weekends. It is a profession he enjoys and makes good money doing. As his sister, it devastates me knowing that each night he goes to work he is being exposed to thousands of toxic chemicals that could someday kill him.

I understood why I lost my grandfather, he smoked. But I don't understand how we can let thousands of people die each year from secondhand smoke and not do our best to prevent it. I am asking you to take a step back and try to see things through my mother's eyes. What if your son or daughter didn't smoke, but someone else slowly took their life? What if your baby brother was working in an environment known to cause cancer? What if you were being the caretaker for someone struggling to breathe due to lung cancer, yet they never smoked?

You have the power to protect my brother, and all other workers. You have the power to prevent him from following in the cancer diagnosis of my grandparents. You have the power to prevent me from having to watch another loved one wither away from the effect of tobacco and secondhand smoke!

About a fifth of all health insurance costs in the state are used to pay for smoking-related diseases – and second hand smoke kills more people a year than traffic accidents. Reducing smoking is excellent health care policy and an excellent business practice. Cancer doesn't discriminate; it affects all walks of life. Everyone has the right to breathe smoke free air!

Sincerely,



Heidi Foster

Testimony of Douglas B. Henderson, Ph.D., May 31, 2007
Professor of Psychology Emeritus, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Licensed Wisconsin Psychologist, 1977-2001

Date?

Good Afternoon.

Though I am unable to be here in person today, I am grateful for the chance to have my testimony presented for me.

For my entire professional career, from the early 1970s until my retirement in 2001, I specialized in child development and behavior problems in children and adolescents. For over 30 years in Wisconsin I have been, and continue to be, involved in the public health and mental health areas. It is from this perspective, as a youth advocate, that I speak today.

In our society we protect our youth from danger until we believe they are old enough to make mature and healthy decisions on their own. We do not allow youth to drive, consume alcohol, handle guns, vote, or smoke, until they have reached a certain level of maturity, and/or have had certain required education or training. We require children and youth to be vaccinated against disease, knowing that this is a good choice they might not make for themselves until it was too late.

Unfortunately, despite our best intentions, many children and adolescents are involuntarily exposed to second-hand cigarette smoke at a time in their lives when they are not yet considered mature enough by society to make other such life-affecting decisions on their own. Their parents may make this decision for them by taking them into an environment where smoking is allowed. The decision to enter a smoke-filled environment may be made by the youth themselves for reasons such as just going along with their friends, fear of being different, desire to appear grown-up, rebellion from their family's values, or similar reasons, all of which we would hope are less likely to influence decisions they will later make as young adults.

However, unlike many other behaviors which society limits until maturity, at present, the decision to enter a smoke-filled environment, when it is left up to the youth themselves, is often made for the wrong reasons. For too many of our youth, choosing to spend time in a room full of second hand smoke is a bad choice they made too soon.

The unfortunate truth is that when many adults state "It is my right as an adult to choose to smoke wherever I wish," they are actually contributing to the negative health effects of second hand smoke on our youth.

One proven way to decrease the smoking behavior of all smokers, youth and adult, is to make smoking in ALL indoor environments over which the state has control, illegal. This is why I am urging you to support the 100% statewide smokfree bill (SB 150) as it is written, with no exceptions or delays.

As a youth advocate, I would ask you to join our neighbors in Minnesota and Illinois in making the decision of many youth to enter a smoke-filled environment just a little more difficult. A means to make smoking just a little more difficult. A means to perhaps delay decisions about smoking long enough so that more of our youth can make the right choice at the right time.

Thank You.

Doug Henderson
4308 Heffron Street
Stevens Point, WI 54481
(715) 345-1290

To Senator Schultz and Committee members re: SB150

Date?

My name is Judy Spring; I'm a resident of Sauk County. My training is in rehabilitation. I am very concerned about the fair treatment of people with alcohol and drug addictions.

Few people question the Surgeon General's findings about the health hazards of second hand smoke. It is widely agreed that smoking should be prohibited in public places, like restaurants and bowling alleys, as a means of decreasing the incidence of costly illnesses.

But, members of the Tavern League advocate allowing smoking in bars. This is where my concern about fair treatment of people with alcoholism comes in. Researchers have found that people with alcohol and drug disorders are more likely to die of tobacco caused diseases than from alcohol or drugs. Drinkers who smoke lose from 10 to 20 years of their expected life span. Drinking in smoky bars significantly increases the alcoholic's exposure to carcinogens. But, then, who cares?

If exposure to second hand smoke is a public health hazard, then why aren't people who suffer from alcoholism as deserving of smoke-free air as everyone else? Might it be they are regarded as a more disposable consumer base? It seems unsound business practice to object to something that would keep tavern patrons alive longer.

I suggest to the committee that, as a matter of fairness, people who frequent bars, including those who are alcoholics, are as deserving of the health benefits of clean indoor air as everyone else. The bill that comes out of this committee should be a comprehensive one that protects everyone, including people with alcoholism.

Judy Spring
E13119 Hwy 33
Baraboo WI 53913

Date?

To Senator Schultz and the Senate Committee considering SB150:

I am a Safety Director at an industry in Reedsburg. I routinely distribute nuisance dust masks for employees mowing lawn, cleaning with compressed air, or working with particulate powder in a process, and other protective applications. We have respirators, cartridge air purifiers and self-contained breathing apparatuses for the most contaminated air to protect our employees.

As an industry, we must do air quality measuring for a number of contaminants, including carbon monoxide, a major contaminant in cigarettes, along with informing our employees of what they are being exposed to, as per OSHA. We have a smoke-free policy in our workplace, and do not want to expose the rest of our workers to the numerous other contaminants and carcinogens caused by second hand smoke. So why should we be exposed to similar contaminants in bars, restaurants and other public places?

This past weekend I walked into a popular public restaurant in LaValle. Immediately upon entering, I noticed another customer smoking and using his plate as an ash tray. Prior to being served my own great Wisconsin breakfast, three more smokers lit up their cigarettes after making comments along the lines of, "That guy is smoking so it must be all right for us to smoke." I ask you, is this right? My eyes burned, my clothes stunk and, most of all, when I wiped my lips with a napkin it was like smelling an ash tray. Oh, and did I forget to add I forgot to bring along my respiratory protection. I ask your support in protecting us and making ALL public places smoke free.

Thank you and respectfully yours,
Bruce Zirk
S-1295 Summit Pt. Dr.
LaValle WI 53941

Date?

4193 Sixth Lane
Wis. Dells, WI 53965
May 29, 2007

Dear Senator Schultz:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 150 that would prohibit smoking in public places, including bars and restaurants.

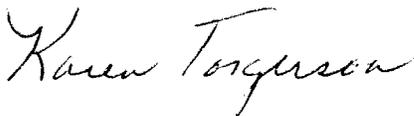
I have never smoked, but have had breathing problems all my life related to a birth defect that limits my lung capacity. These breathing problems have caused me to have to be very careful in deciding where I go in public as smoke from cigarettes causes me much distress. I love the grand Wisconsin tradition of the Friday night Fish Fry, but have had to consider very carefully where I will go for such an event due to the fact that many restaurants allow smoking. And as more restaurants have gone smoke-free, the problem has become that so many have bars, either attached or right in the middle of the restaurant, effectively rendering them a smoking restaurant.

In addition, bowling, a sport well within my physical capabilities, has often been out of bounds for me as the smoke from the other bowlers or the nearby bar, leave me feeling short of breath at that time or causes me problems the next day. Here in the Wisconsin Dells we now have a smoke-free bowling facility! This is wonderful, but I will have to pay "tourist prices" that are almost 50% more to have the privilege of being healthy the next day.

THIS SHOULD NOT BE!! People should be able to work and play in places that are not dangerous to their health!!

The passage of this bill will go a long way towards making ALL of Wisconsin a safe, smoke-free place to be. Please vote yes on this bill.

Sincerely,



Karen Torgerson

Wisconsin State Senate

Date?

Public Health, Senior Issues, Long-Term Care and Privacy Committee

Re: SB 150

Smoking has become the number one issue in the United States and Europe, as it involves all people, not just smokers.

I recently lost a close friend to lung cancer. He was a long-time smoker ... over 40 years. The button he wore on his golf hat stated, "No One Deserves to Have Lung Cancer". That was a result of remarks made to him about being a smoker. Dave had no symptoms of lung cancer in his daily routine. It was discovered through a CAT scan to check for injuries after an automobile accident ... I guess that's why they call it the silent killer. He fought valiantly through several episodes of chemotherapy, but finally succumbed to it's lack of results.

My reason for mentioning this story, is to point out that all of the laws could not stop what happened to Dave. You see, it's not the law, it's the life ... it's an issue of public health. Every one of us has experienced the second hand smoke phenomena when we walk into a crowded bar or party area that is populated with smokers. All of those areas have employees, and those employees should be treated as well as an office worker, protected from second hand smoke. I consider any area, where employees are asked to attend, must be considered a workplace, and not be exempted from regulations.

It is no longer a question of 'if', but 'when' Wisconsin join its neighboring states in banning smoking in all public areas and workplaces. The SB 150 that you are looking at, covers all the areas that I have been talking about and still does not preempt those local ordinances that people have wanted and passed, which may be more restrictive than the state's statute. Enforcement of these issues has not been a problem where these laws have passed. It has been noted that any encroachment has been self-regulated by the parties concerned.

Senator Dale Schultz and I have discussed these issues previously. I would like to remind you all that over 70% of your constituents are "non" smokers, and the majority of those support a total ban on smoking. This bill will also level the playing field for any objectors on the basis of economic effects.

Sincerely,

Donald J. Bauer
E12095 Grubers Grove Road
Prairie du Sac, WI 53578-9300
phone: 608-643-6701
e-mail: dbauer64@merr.com

Date?

Dear committee member on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term and Privacy,

Unfortunately I am unable to attend the Public Hearing for SB150 on May 31st, but I'd like to take this opportunity to offer a written testimony to show my support in favor of a 100% Smoke Free Wisconsin, with no exemptions.

My concerns regarding secondhand smoke came about because of the drastic health issues that have affected my family. I saw my mother die early in life due to lung problems associated with smoking. She never got to see her grandchildren grow up. I also married a smoker, not knowing in the fifties how smoking would affect my life. I watched and cared for my husband as he started having breathing problems, coughing, choking, not being able to breathe, and finally being put on Oxygen. My two children and I watched him die a horrible death from Emphysema. He too, died too young, and left me with a mentally handicapped daughter and son to bring up on my own.

I am now 70 years old, and have never smoked a day in my life. To my horrible surprise I now have been diagnosed with emphysema due to secondhand smoke.

This committee can take the first step in protecting other families from experiencing my family's health history. Please protect everyone's health, by a vote in favor of a Smoke Free Wisconsin without exemptions.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Susan Carpenter
1151 Lakeshore Drive
Menasha, WI 54952

SB 150?
Date?

DEAR MEMBERS OF SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH, SENIOR SERVICES, LONG TERM CARE AND PROGRAM COMMITTEE,

MY NAME IS BETTYE NALL. I HAVE BEEN A MARATHON COUNTY BOARD SUPERVISOR FOR 19 YEARS AND CURRENTLY SERVE AS CHAIR OF THE MARATHON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH AND CHAIR OF THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE. IN THESE ROLES IT IS OUR DUTY TO ADDRESS HEALTH ISSUES OF COUNTY RESIDENTS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE COUNTY. WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH THE TOBACCO FREE COALITION TO PROMOTE INDOOR CLEAN AIR FOR SEVERAL YEARS, WITH SOME DEGREE OF SUCCESS.

MY PERSONAL EXPERIENCE WITH SECOND-HAND SMOKE IS VERY REAL; BEING IN THE PRESENCE OF SMOKERS CAUSES DIFFICULTY IN BREATHING. I CANNOT REMAIN IN A SMOKE FILLED ROOM OR AN ENCLOSED AREA WHERE SMOKING HAS BEEN ALLOWED SUCH AS A MOTEL ROOM OR AUTOMOBILE.

THE STATES OF ILLINOIS AND MINNESOTA WILL SOON BECOME THE 19TH AND 20TH STATES TO PASS COMPREHENSIVE SMOKEFREE LEGISLATION LEAVING WISCONSIN EVEN FURTHER BEHIND.

A STATEWIDE SMOKE FREE WORKPLACE LAW AS PROPOSED BY GOVERNOR DOYLE IS GOOD PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY. IT WILL PUT ALL BUSINESSES ON AN EQUAL PLAYING FIELD AND CREATE A HEALTHY WORK ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL EMPLOYEES.

THE U.S. SURGEON GENERAL HAS CONCLUDED THAT ELIMINATING SMOKING IN INDOOR SPACES IS THE ONLY WAY TO FULLY PROTECT EVERYONE FROM THE DANGERS OF SECOND HAND SMOKE. IT HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED THAT SECOND HAND SMOKE IS A SERIOUS HEALTH HAZARD THAT CAUSES PREMATURE DEATH AND DISEASES IN NON-SMOKING ADULTS..

MANY YOUNG PEOPLE LIKE COLLEGE STUDENTS MUST FIND JOBS TO PAY FOR THEIR EDUCATION, SKILLS ARE LIMITED TO BEING RESTUARANT WAIT STAFF OR BAR-TENDING. THE NEED FOR A JOB PRECLUDES HEALTH CONCERNS. WE NEED TO PROTECT EVERYONE WHO LIVES AND WORKS IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN FROM SECOND-HAND SMOKE IN THE WORKPLACE AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

I AM ENCOURAGING EACH OF YOU TO USE YOUR POSITION AS POLICY MAKERS TO PROTECT ALL OF WISCONSIN'S RESIDENTS FROM THE DANGERS OF SECOND-HAND SMOKE BY PASSING A 100% SMOKE FREE WORKPLACE LAW AS PROPOSED BY THE GOVERNOR!

THANKS.

Bettye Nall

Date?

Dear Committee members on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy,

Unfortunately I am unable to attend the Public Hearing for SB 150, but I'd like to take this opportunity to offer a written testimony to show my support in favor of a 100% smoke free Wisconsin, no exemptions.

I have had mixed feelings about this issue in the past, however due to some recent personal experiences I felt compelled to speak out in favor of a SB150 and am asking you to do the same.

My father was a pastor who was taught to smoke in the seminary, as a way to rid the body of illnesses after meeting with the sick and elderly. It is no surprise to me today the impact of the tobacco industry had on my father's life. He smoked until he died a painful death from emphysema in 1991. My mother on the other hand, has never smoked in her life. However this past week she was diagnosed with her 3rd round of cancer, and this time treatment is not an option. Looking at all the possibilities, it appears that her 40 plus years of exposure to my father's secondhand smoke was a likely cause to her cancer.

Beyond being a daughter, I am also a mother to 4 wonderful children, all who have spent some time as a bartender. While you may say they had a choice to work at these professions, at the point in their lives, it was the best option for the money they made. Today I have 2 sons who continue to work part-time as bartenders on the weekends. It is a profession that they enjoy and make good money doing. However, as a mother I am devastated knowing that each time they go to work for the night, they are being exposed to thousands of toxic chemicals. Even in the Supper Clubs in New London, people are forced to wait in a smoke ridden Tavern while waiting for a table in the Smoke Free Dining area of the restaurant.

I understood why I lost my father, he chose to smoke. But I don't understand how we can let thousands of people die each day from secondhand smoke and not do our best to stop it! I am asking you to take a step back, and imagine how you would feel if you were in my shoes. What if your son or daughter didn't smoke, but someone else slowly took their life? How would you feel being a caretaker for someone struggling to breathe due to lung cancer, but they never smoked?

I am asking you to protect my children. I am asking that all smokers should go outside to smoke. I am asking you to prevent me from having to watch another loved one wither away from the effects of tobacco and secondhand smoke. I am asking you to vote in support of SB 150 and protect everyone's right to breathe clean indoor air!



Kathy Foster

N4728 Madden Rd.

New London, WI 54961

(920) 982-2386

Date?

Dear Committee members on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term Care and Privacy,

Unfortunately I am unable to attend the Public Hearing for SB 150, but I'd like to take this opportunity to offer a written testimony to show my support in favor of a 100% smoke free Wisconsin, no exemptions.

As a resident of Hortonville, I have been fortunate to experience the smoke free bars in Appleton. Being 25 and recently out of college it has been very refreshing to be able to go out with my friends and not have to suffer the effects of secondhand smoke. I keep hearing that bar owners are afraid of losing business. I am out in the bars and that is simply not true. Every weekend the bars are packed with patrons wanting to be in the smoke free bars of Appleton. Even the workers would testify how nice it is. Anyone who is out in Appleton can clearly see **SMOKING BANS DON'T HURT BUSINESS!!!**

However Appleton is the only place to go out that's smoke free. Even in the Supper Clubs in New London, and Hortonville, people are forced to wait in a smoke ridden Tavern while waiting for a table in the Smoke Free Dining area of the restaurant. It's gotten to the point that I don't want to go out to the places that offer smoking... even if no one is smoking. The smell stays in the bars and restaurants long after a smoker has left. From my experience, I have seen **businesses that do not allow smoking are busier than those that do allow smoking**. I would like to go to the bars and restaurants closer to Hortonville, but until they are 100% smoke free, I refuse!

Please vote in support of SB150. Let's join Illinois and Minnesota and make Wisconsin 100% smoke free, no exemptions (especially for bars and taverns). I'd hate to see Wisconsin be the butt of the Midwest!



Brent Dusek
829 Michael Ritger St Apt 8
Hortonville, WI 54944

Date?

Dear committee member on Public Health, Senior Issues, Long Term and Privacy,

Unfortunately I am unable to attend the Public Hearing for SB150 on May 31st, but I'd like to take this opportunity to offer a written testimony to show my support in favor of a 100% Smoke Free Wisconsin, with no exemptions.

There are many reasons to support this proposal. One point that I feel I can speak to is the exposure of secondhand smoke for those that work in bars and restaurants. My job requires that I make visits to several bars and restaurants almost on a daily basis. I may be at these establishments for several hours at a time and I am no doubt exposed to a great deal of secondhand smoke on many of these visits.

My work provides a service to support bars and restaurants. I love my job and I have developed many great relationships with the owners and employees of these establishments. If this law is passed it would greatly benefit the health of all those that work in bars and restaurants, as well as those that work in support of these establishments.

Please protect everyone's health, by a vote in favor of a Smoke Free Wisconsin without exemptions.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Jed Wohlt
N4103 Laird Rd
Black Creek, WI 54106