

# Indiana

## Campaign for SMOKEFREE Air



6100 W. 96th Street, Suite 200 | Indianapolis, IN 46278 | [www.SmokefreeIN.com](http://www.SmokefreeIN.com) | 1.866.860.0297 | [@ASmokefreeIN](https://twitter.com/ASmokefreeIN)

### Steering Committee Members

American Cancer Society,  
Great Lakes Division  
American Heart Association,  
Midwest Affiliate  
American Lung Association  
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids  
Indiana Academy of  
Family Physicians  
Indiana State Medical Association

### Coalition Members

Alliance for Health Promotion  
American Academy of Pediatrics –  
Indiana  
Americans for Non-Smokers' Rights  
Clarian Health  
Coalition for Advanced  
Practice Nurses  
Hoosier Faith & Health Coalition  
Indiana Black Expo  
Indiana Cancer Consortium  
Indiana Dental Association  
Indiana Dietetic Association  
Indiana Hospice & Palliative Care  
Indiana Hospital Association  
Indiana Latino Institute  
Indiana Minority Health Coalition  
Indiana Perinatal Network  
Indiana Public Health Association  
Indiana Rural Health Association  
Indiana Society for Public Health  
Education  
Indiana Tobacco Prevention  
& Cessation  
Indiana University Simon  
Cancer Center  
March of Dimes – IN Chapter  
Mental Health America of Indiana  
Promoting Smokefree Pregnancy  
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

Contact: Emily Coyle, (517) 449-6036  
[emily.coyle@cancer.org](mailto:emily.coyle@cancer.org)

Mike Murphy, (317) 414-0964  
[mike@perituspr.com](mailto:mike@perituspr.com)

## SMOKEFREE AIR RALLIES HUNDREDS TO STATE CAPITOL

*Advocates Help Advance Bill To Senate*

**Indianapolis, Ind.** – Jan. 31, 2011 – As state lawmakers consider legislation to make Indiana smokefree, hundreds of Hoosiers from across the state traveled to the Statehouse Monday to urge lawmakers to enact a statewide, comprehensive smokefree air law that covers all workplaces, including restaurants, bars, private clubs, and gaming facilities. More than 300 advocates representing dozens of local, statewide and national organizations joined the Indiana Campaign for Smokefree Air's Day at the Statehouse to send a clear message to lawmakers: it is time for Indiana to join nearly two dozen other states and the District of Columbia in enacting a statewide law that protects all Hoosier workers from the effects of secondhand smoke.

“The Indiana Campaign for Smokefree Air's Day at the Statehouse gave advocates an opportunity to express to their lawmakers their strong support for a comprehensive smokefree air law that would protect all workers from exposure to secondhand smoke,” said Danielle Patterson, chair of the Indiana Campaign for Smokefree Air and government relations director for the American Heart Association. “The current legislation that just passed the House would exempt bars, gaming facilities, veterans' homes and fraternal organizations. Still, we are pleased that it is now moving to the Senate where we will work with lawmakers to strengthen the bill and present the governor with a comprehensive bill for his signature.”

Dozens of reports from various reputable state agencies and universities throughout the country show smokefree air laws have no significant impact on business. While the current legislation is not comprehensive, advocates continue to make the case that the only way to accomplish adequate protection from secondhand smoke is to eliminate it from all public places, including restaurants, bars and casinos, and that no worker should be forced to choose between their health and their paycheck.

Michael Kelley, an American Cancer Society volunteer from Muncie and lifetime non-smoker, shared his experience as a seven-year survivor of cancer his doctor attributed to more than 20 years of exposure to secondhand smoke in his workplace.

“At age 50, I was diagnosed with metastatic squamous cell carcinoma, which often spreads to the lungs and becomes terminal lung cancer,” Kelley said. “Although I endured 35 painful radiation treatments that gave me third degree burns, I am just

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The Indiana Campaign for Smokefree Air (ICSA) is a grassroots coalition comprised of nearly 400 national, state and local health organizations, businesses, and faith-based institutions committed to protecting all workers from exposure to secondhand smoke. The ICSA is working to achieve this goal by advocating for the passage of a statewide, comprehensive smokefree air law that covers all workplaces. For more information on the ICSA, visit [www.SmokefreeIN.com](http://www.SmokefreeIN.com), become a fan on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter at @ASmokefreeIN.



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thankful to be alive. Imagine how shocked I was when I found out that the secondhand smoke I was exposed to on a daily basis at work gave me this terrible disease.”

According to the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, an estimated 1,240 Indiana adult nonsmokers die from exposure to secondhand smoke each year. The latest State of Tobacco Control Report issued by the American Lung Association gave Indiana a grade of “F” in nearly every category, including smokefree air. A 2010 statewide poll showed that more than 2 out of 3 Hoosiers support a comprehensive smokefree air law that includes all workplaces.

Ambre Marr, government liaison with the Indiana State Medical Association, chairs the ICSA Lobby Committee.

“We are thankful for the support of all the volunteers, businesses, organizations and, of course, our lawmakers and smokefree bill sponsors who are working to make Indiana a smokefree state,” said Marr. “We are encouraged by the overwhelming public support and dedication of the advocates who are committed to smokefree air becoming a reality in this legislative session.”

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