



6100 W. 96th Street, Suite 200 | Indianapolis, IN 46278 | www.SmokefreeIN.com | 1.866.860.0297 | @ASmokefreeIN

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

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
- Little Red Door Cancer Agency
- March of Dimes – IN Chapter
- Mental Health America of Indiana
- Promoting Smokefree Pregnancy
- The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

On Kick Butts Day, Time to Kick the Butts out of Indiana Workplaces

New Study Shows WI Bartenders Healthier Thanks to Smokefree Law; Senate Public Policy Committee to hear smokefree bill Wednesday

INDIANAPOLIS, IN. – March 22, 2011 – A recent report issued by the University of Wisconsin shows bartenders in Wisconsin workplaces show fewer signs of respiratory illnesses following enactment of the state’s smokefree air law. With a hearing on House Bill 1018 scheduled for tomorrow, the Indiana Campaign for Smokefree Air (ICSA) is urging members of the Indiana Senate Public Policy Committee members to pass House Bill 1018, legislation to make workplaces in Indiana smokefree, without exemptions. In its current form, the legislation exempts bars from being smokefree.

Wednesday, March 23 also marks the 16th annual National Kick Butts Day, a national day of activism that empowers youth to speak out, stand up and seize control against Big Tobacco.

“With more than 1,000 events taking place around the country in honor of Kick Butts Day, we hope Indiana lawmakers will take this opportunity to help kick the butts out of Indiana workplaces by passing a comprehensive smokefree air bill out of committee,” said Kevin O’Flaherty, director of advocacy for the Northeast Region of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. “The recent report from the University of Wisconsin serves as further evidence that smokefree workplaces have immediate health benefits for workers.”

The Center for Urban Initiatives and Research (CUIR) at the University of Wisconsin last week reported findings from a statewide study of 531 Wisconsin bartenders conducted before and after enactment of the state’s smokefree air law. According to CUIR, the study showed eight smoking-related upper respiratory health symptoms were reduced by as much as 36 percent in the three to six months after the statewide smokefree law took effect. The study included urban and rural areas of Wisconsin and was limited to bartenders who worked in establishments that allowed smoking before the law and were smokefree after the law took effect.

The full report of the study may be found here:
http://www4.uwm.edu/cuir/research/upload/WI_Bartender_Study_2010.pdf.

For information on local Kick Butts Day events, please visit
<http://www.kickbuttsday.org/events/index.php>.

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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, become a fan on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter at @ASmokefreeIN.