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#### 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

## Smokefree Air Fails To Clear Senate Committee

### *Bill Would Have Been One of Weakest in the Nation*

**INDIANAPOLIS, IN. – April 5, 2011** – Despite months of effort by lawmakers, thousands of smokefree advocates, and hundreds of businesses, local coalitions and health organizations throughout the state, the Indiana Senate Public Policy Committee today failed to pass House Bill 1018, the smokefree air legislation. Further, Committee Chair Ron Alting, R-Lafayette, refused to hear amendments that would have put bars and taverns back in the bill to strengthen it and protect a greater number of Hoosier workers from the effects of secondhand smoke in the workplace.

The following is a statement from Danielle Patterson, chair of the Indiana Campaign for Smokefree Air:

“Today is truly a devastating loss not only for the thousands of Hoosier workers who are exposed every day at work to the harmful effects of secondhand smoke, and not only for the two-thirds of Hoosiers who support statewide smokefree air, but for public health policy in general. Senator Alting stood at a unique point in Indiana’s public health history. He had the power, entrusted to him by his own employer – the people of Indiana - to profoundly improve the quality of life for countless Hoosiers from now into the future by protecting workers in bars and restaurants from secondhand smoke.

“Unfortunately, House Bill 1018 had been hijacked by well-financed special interests, to the point where it really does nothing except protect the status quo. It is our hope that the irony is not lost on the taxpayers who are shouldering the burden of more than \$390 million in secondhand smoke-related health care costs each year, and the complete lack of evidence that allowing smoking provides any economic or fiscal benefit to businesses.”

“We are not giving up. We know that smokefree air is the only way to protect workers from exposure to secondhand smoke, and we will continue to fight for a strong, smokefree air bill that protects employees of bars, taverns and restaurants – workers who deserve the same protections as those in office buildings, schools and other smokefree environments.”

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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.