

**SMOKE
FREE
KENTUCKY**

SMOKE-FREE SAVES LIVES AND MONEY



KENTUCKY CAN'T AFFORD THE HIGH COSTS OF SMOKING AND SECONDHAND SMOKE

- Kentucky spends \$1.92 billion a year in healthcare costs treating smoking-related illnesses. \$487 million of that is spent through Medicaid. Smoking related illness and death also costs Kentucky \$2.3 billion a year in lost productivity.¹
- A 2005 study by the Society of Actuaries found that exposure to secondhand smoke costs the U.S. about \$5 billion a year in direct medical costs. Kentucky's share of those costs is estimated to be at least \$100 million per year.^{1,2}
- Secondhand smoke exposure costs \$10 billion in medical costs and lost wages, benefits, and services each year in the U.S.³

SMOKE-FREE LAWS SAVE MONEY AND MAKE IT EASIER FOR SMOKERS TO QUIT

- Smoke-free laws make it easier for smokers to quit. Lexington's smoke-free law resulted in 16,500 fewer smokers saving an estimated \$21 million per year in healthcare costs.⁴
- When smokers quit, companies enjoy lower healthcare costs, less absenteeism, lower workers' compensation payments, higher productivity, and most importantly, lives saved.^{5,6,7}

SMOKE-FREE LAWS HELP TOURISM

- One research study comparing hotel revenues and tourism rates of smoke-free states and smoke-free cities discovered that smoke-free laws may actually increase tourism.⁸
- A report on convention business found that groups seeking a convention site would not avoid a location because of its smoke-free status.⁹

CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE SUPPORT SMOKE-FREE LAWS

- The Kentucky Chamber of Commerce supports a comprehensive, statewide smoke-free law.
- Many Chambers of Commerce around the country support smoke-free laws.¹⁰
- The President of the Louisville Chamber of Commerce, Greater Louisville Inc., stated that the smoke-free law was "ultimately helping us reach our vision of becoming an economic hotspot."¹¹

SMOKE-FREE IS GOOD FOR HEALTH AND BUSINESS

- ¹ http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts_issues/toll_us/Kentucky
- ² Behan, D.F., et al., Economic Effects of Environmental Tobacco Smoke, Society of Actuaries, March 31, 2005, <https://www.soa.org/Research/Research-Projects/Life-Insurance/research-economic-effect.aspx> [nationwide costs allocated to Kentucky based on its share of all U.S. smokers, which is 2.1%].
- ³ Behan, D., M. Eriksen, and Y. Lin, Economic effects of environmental tobacco smoke. 2005, Society of Actuaries.
- ⁴ Hahn, E.J., et al., Smoke-free laws and adult smoking prevalence. *Prev Med*, 2008. 47 (2): p. 206-9.
- ⁵ Kreistein, M.M. How much can business expect to profit from smoking cessation? *Preventive Medicine* 12:358-381, 1983.
- ⁶ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Making Your Workplace Smoke Free: A Decision Maker's Guide, 1996.
- ⁷ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Save Lives, Save Money: Make Your Business Smoke-Free. Atlanta, Georgia: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, June 2006, http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/secondhand_smoke/guides/business/pdfs/save_lives_save_money.pdf.
- ⁸ Glantz, S.A., Charlesworth, A., Tourism and hotel revenues before and after passage of smoke-free restaurant ordinances. *Journal of the American Medical Association* 281 (20): 1911-1918, 1999.
- ⁹ Task Force for a Smoke-free San Diego. The Economic Implications of a Smoke-free San Diego. San Diego, California: Task Force for a Smoke-free San Diego, 1992.
- ¹⁰ Americans for Nonsmokers Rights. Chambers of Commerce Support Smoke free Air As a Good Business Decision Fact Sheet. 2006; <http://www.no-smoke.org/document.php?id=498>. Accessed October 24, 2011.
- ¹¹ Gerth J. Chamber to Back Smoke Ban: Business Group's stance is New. *The Courier-Journal* 2005.