



Leader: Noah Tommy

Email address : noahtommy06@gmail.com

Cell Phone : 816-715-0745

Dear Health and Human Services committee

I would like to thank the Health and Human Services committee for the opportunity to testify on behalf of HB2622.

I work at a Kansas casino as a EVS Deep Cleaner.

Every casino employee has the basic human right to breathe clean, smoke-free air. It shouldn't feel necessary to fight for the right to clean air. Because it can lead to lung conditions, heart problems, and even lung cancer, secondhand smoking is extremely deadly. I have observed and heard firsthand the effects that secondhand smoke has had on my non-smokingteammates and customers.

The smoke-filled air has caused friends and coworkers of mine to develop allergies and respiratory problems. Secondhand smoke has also caused respiratory problems for me, including episodes of coughing and phlegm buildup.

Additionally, there has been one incident that could have caused property damage. A patron disposed of their cigarette before putting out their ashes and cigarette, causing a small fire to develop up inside before my coworkers and I scrambled to put it out.

Our clients may be impacted by secondhand smoke as well. Non Smoking patrons and their families may experience discomfort and health risks as a result of secondhand smoke entering other areas of the casino, like the restaurant.

Communities with smoke-free laws report a reduction in hospital heart attack admissions of up to 17%, according to the CDC.

Systems for ventilation, air conditioning, and heating have their limitations and cannot completely remove secondhand smoke.

Since 85% of Kansas residents do not smoke, a smoking ban in casinos would not affect earnings.

While many other casinos have outlawed smoking, their earnings have not changed. The smoking ban in Kansas casinos will only improve and enhance the working and visitor environments.

Please consider yourself in our shoes. We all work to provide for our families and meet our responsibilities, and we shouldn't be forced to work in circumstances that would make it difficult for us to do so. The clean air will be greatly appreciated by both casino employees and guests. Making the impact that we all greatly need is up to you and us.

Please join us in making a good difference for future generations.

I appreciate you taking the time to read this testimony. All of the casino employees, including me, are urging you to pass HB2622 so that we may see an effective and positive change.

Thank you.

Noah Tommy