

**TESTIMONY OF:
Jodi L. Radke
Regional Director
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids**

**IN SUPPORT OF
HB 2622**

February 7, 2024



Chair Landwehr, and Members of the Health and Human Services Committee,

Thank you for allowing the option to submit written testimony in support of HB 2622.

My name is Jodi Radke. I am a Regional Director for the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. I have had the privilege of working alongside public health experts, leaders, and advocates from the great State of Kansas for over 17 years, many of whom have spent years tirelessly advocating for smokefree air protections for employees. We are grateful for their persistence and commitment to these critical public health policies, and yours.

We know that smokefree air policies are wildly popular nationwide, and Kansas is no exception. We know that Kansas' smokefree air law, implemented in 2010, has been a prideful hallmark for those legislators who led the effort, and the impacts it has had protecting the health of those exposed, and future generations, who do not have the experience of being subjected to health hazards in indoor public spaces.

The omission of casinos from smoke-free indoor public spaces was a tragic one, as many workers have now shared their personal stories highlighting the impacts that their exposure has had on their health. Some, not alive to tell those stories. Studies confirm the level of risk they take to work in these environments. No one should have to choose between their health and their paycheck. These employees are our brothers, sisters, parents, friends and family, who daily subject themselves to known carcinogens in exchange for a career whose compensation is short-lived, given the health impacts and complications that often develop later in life.

On behalf of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, we fully support HB 2622, and hope that this life-saving legislation passes expeditiously. Your work to do so will save lives for generations that follow.

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi L. Radke

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