



# Five Reasons to Keep Illinois 100% Smoke-Free



1. **All workers in the state deserve to be protected from secondhand smoke.** How can we choose certain groups of citizens who are forced to breathe in a Class A carcinogen while at work? Secondhand smoke has been recognized to cause damage even after short exposure. **Casino workers are terrified that they would once again have to work in a smoke-filled environment.**



2. **There is no ventilation system that can effectively remove the cancer-causing agents from the air.** This has been repeatedly reported by the last two U.S. Surgeon Generals as well as the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers and every health organization in the world. **Ventilation systems may reduce the visible smoke in the air, but the carcinogens remain.**



3. **There is no guaranteed revenue to allowing smoking in certain establishments again.** The only numbers that will increase are those of healthcare costs attributed to tobacco. In 2008 and 2009 after the state went smoke-free, there has been an estimated \$1.18 billion saved in cardiac hospitalizations alone. **If exemptions are made to the Smoke Free Illinois Act, the associated healthcare costs caused by secondhand smoke would outweigh any potential new revenue.**



4. **Illinois casinos were purposely placed in economically-deprived areas of the state to stimulate growth.** They are not in tourist destinations like many casinos in bordering states. Sometimes there is only one hotel option and no shopping or nightlife. **There are many other factors that contribute to revenue loss; it's not Smoke Free Illinois.** The entire state is hurting for money right now.



5. Any amendment to Smoke Free Illinois would start us down a slippery slope and destroy the level playing field that Illinois currently has to offer. **Other businesses would soon be asking for exemptions to the law as well.** Out of 30 smoke-free states, none of them have ever gone back to weaken their smoke-free law. **Illinois would be the first to require workers to sacrifice their health for a paycheck.**



**Vote NO**

**House Bill 1310 (Smoking Licenses)**

**House Bill 171 (designated smoking sections)**

**House Bill 1965 (smoking in casinos until neighboring state goes smoke-free)**