

From: [Erin Shine](#)
To: [Doniece Gott](#)
Subject: Fwd: Statewide Smoke-free Workplace Legislation
Date: Saturday, March 12, 2016 4:23:01 PM

Public testimony for SB 1.

Thanks,
Erin

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Cindy Emery <aksaintma@gmail.com>
Date: March 12, 2016 at 4:18:00 PM AKST
To: <erin.shine@akleg.gov>
Subject: Statewide Smoke-free Workplace Legislation

I'm writing in support of a statewide smoke-free workplace law for the Great State of Alaska. I've lived in Anchorage for 28 years. I'm a mother and a grandmother. I volunteer with my church, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and I help facilitate a book club at Highland Mountain Correctional Center. I care about my community the same way I care about my family.

My catholic upbringing has instilled in me a very deep sense of what social justice is. And I believe that, in a lot of ways, secondhand smoke exposure in the workplace is a social justice issue. Everyone, no matter their means, their employer, their way of life, has a basic right to breathe smoke-free air. Everyone deserves it. No one should be excluded. It's upsetting to me that so many have enjoyed this gift while others have remained in jeopardy. I hate to think that some would feel this way, but the situation of some communities having a smoke-free law and some not lends itself to the idea that "those" people, through no fault of their own and who haven't been able to enact a local ordinance, are somehow less deserving of that protection within their community.

I think that everybody should stand up for what's right. We should create a level playing field for every citizen in the state and pave the way for a statewide law to go through so that everybody can breathe smoke-free air in the workplace. It's painfully simple.

It's time for everybody to stand up and say this has gone on way too long. It's time to get this done.

Sincerely,
Cindy Emery
8710 El Paso Place
Anchorage, AK 99515