

From: [Erin Shine](#)
To: [Doniece Gott](#)
Subject: Fwd: Support for SB1
Date: Monday, March 14, 2016 5:24:17 AM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Alison Kulas <kulasali@gmail.com>
Date: March 13, 2016 at 10:32:36 PM AKDT
To: <erin.shine@akleg.gov>, <chuck.kopp@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for SB1

Hi Erin, will you please pass this letter of support for SB1 along to the members of the Senate Finance Committee? Thank you!

Dear Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing today in full support of SB1 the Take it Outside Act. As it's written, SB1 protects all Alaskan workers equally from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke and e-cigarette aerosol. In addition, this clarifies the prohibition of marijuana use in public by including no smoked or vaped marijuana in every workplace and other public places.

Tobacco use remains the number one killer of Alaskans. For every smoker that dies 2 kids become newly addicted. 1 out of every 3 cancers are caused by tobacco. Strong public policy like SB1 protect our workers, reduce healthcare costs (including Medicaid), and promote positive environments for our kids.

In this time of budget challenges it is prudent to pass legislation that will save the state money over time. It is estimated that SB1 will save Alaska \$5 million over 5 years, including \$500,000 in Medicaid. It has been consistently demonstrated that with every smokefree workplace law in place, heart attack rates drop considerably in those communities.

Smokefree workplace laws have been proven to be nine times most cost effective than free nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) (patch, gum, etc) programs. People that choose to use NRT or choose to go cold turkey will be more successful with

their quit attempt if they are working in a smokefree environment. I saw this firsthand when my father, a long time smoker, drastically reduced the amount he smoked when his workplace went smokefree.

Currently only half of the state is protected from secondhand smoke in the workplace. Most of the remaining communities lack the health powers to be able to pass their own legislation. Support across the state has grown over the years, and in 2014 87% of Alaskans and 76% of smokers believe all workplaces should be smokefree.

First class communities across Alaska such as Juneau, Petersburg, and Palmer have strengthened their local laws to include e-cigarettes. They understand that, even though they have only been on the mass market since 2007 and popular since 2010, the science is showing heating e-cigarette liquid produces an aerosol containing heavy metal particles and toxins.

No worker should have to decide between their health and a paycheck. Smokefree workplaces, including e-cigarettes, will ensure that all Alaskan workers are protected from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke and aerosol. Alaskans cannot wait one more year for safe workplaces. Please pass SB1 and Take it Outside.

Thank you for your time,

Alison Kulas

Anchorage