

Dear Legislators:

I am Jean Tsigonis, a family doctor from Fairbanks and the current President of the Alaska Academy of Family Physicians. I speak for myself and for the Academy. I entreat you to support House Bill 328, which fights diseases caused by exposure to second hand smoke. These include: fetal growth retardation, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, upper respiratory infections, asthma, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), and lung cancer. This needs to be addressed from a state-wide view, since many people do not live within local jurisdictions that can protect them. This way the entire state's health can be protected. By preventing disease, the health care costs of our state will drop. This is a net positive budget item, with the cost of signage being provided through the American Cancer Society.

Thank you for taking this into consideration. If you have any questions, feel free to call or write me.

Sincerely,

Jean Tsigonis, MD
907-322-9909 Cell
jeantsig@hotmail.com