

Legislative Update

On Oct. 28, the State Health Finance Commission re-convened to vote on a statewide smokefree air policy recommendation to the General Assembly. Representative Brown (Chairman) presented the commission with a comprehensive policy draft with no exemptions. Twenty-eight House and Senate members serve on the commission but only 12 were in attendance that day. In order for the commission to recommend a policy to the General Assembly, 12 members (quorum) must vote in favor. The vote was nine (support) to three (oppose). While the majority of those present voted in favor of the comprehensive policy recommendation, there were not enough members in attendance to give the 12 votes needed for a recommendation.



This month, Reps. Charlie Brown (D) and Eric Turner (R) introduced a comprehensive smokefree air bill in the General Assembly for upcoming session. Sen. Beverly Gard (R) will introduce a comprehensive smokefree air bill in the Indiana State Senate. The bipartisan support is encouraging, and we are confident we can foster further bipartisan support so the Legislature can pass a comprehensive smokefree air bill this year.

