

Hoosiers Support a Statewide Smokefree Air Law

A recent poll by Bellwether Research and Consulting, a frequent pollster used by Governor Daniels, found that 53 percent of Hoosiers are more likely to support a candidate who supports a smokefree air law. The poll was conducted prior to the November 2 elections and shows that 66 percent of Hoosiers support a statewide smokefree law.



Each year, more than 1,200 Indiana adult nonsmokers die from exposure to secondhand smoke. Food service workers are 50 percent more likely to develop lung cancer, largely because of exposure to secondhand smoke on the job. The effects of secondhand smoke are overwhelming and Indiana lawmakers have the responsibility to protect all Hoosier workers.

A recent study by the American Lung Association and Pfizer found that each year tobacco use not only kills 9,700 Hoosiers, but costs Indiana more than \$7.6 billion — including workplace productivity losses of \$2 billion, premature death costs of \$3 billion, and direct medical expenditures of \$2.6 billion.

Hoosiers have been in favor of a statewide smokefree law for the past several years and this year, voters considered their candidates' positions on the issue when voting at the polls. It's time for the Indiana General Assembly to listen to their constituents and pass a comprehensive statewide smokefree air law!

