



American Cancer Society
Cancer Action Network
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Oregon House of Representatives
House Committee on Healthcare
Chair Rachel Prusak

RE: Support for HB 4101

Dear Chair Prusak and members of the House Healthcare Committee:

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network urges you to support HB 4101 and modernize Oregon's protections from secondhand smoke.

Despite Oregon's leadership in establishing strong tobacco control policies, tobacco-related illness remains the number one cause of preventable death in this state. Further we know that there is no safe level of second-hand smoke. Breathing secondhand smoke can increase your risk of lung cancer, heart disease, and stroke. There is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke. Even outdoors, a person can be exposed to high levels of secondhand smoke if someone is smoking nearby—even brief exposure can be dangerous. It's not just cigarettes you need to worry about. Breathing secondhand smoke from cannabis and e-cigarettes is also harmful to your health. The only effective way to fully protect nonsmokers from exposure to secondhand smoke is to eliminate smoking in public spaces.

Oregon was an early leader in providing the protections of the Indoor Clean Air Act back in 1981. Oregon was one of the first states to put in place an outdoor buffer around doors and windows to prevent the harmful effects of secondhand smoke. And in the years since, this has become a best practice in most states. But as a leader in that effort, our initial law was more modest than what is now considered a best practice. Our neighbors in Washington, Idaho, and California all have buffer distances greater than Oregon's 10-foot buffer.

That is why the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network supports the passage of HB 4101. It's time for Oregon to modernize this important public health standard. Increasing the buffer distance around doors and windows from 10 feet to 25 feet will provide greater protections from harmful secondhand smoke to those inside the building. Oregon has been a leader on this issue for more than 40 years, and we encourage you to renew that leadership by voting yes on HB 4101.

Please vote YES on HB 4101. Thank you for your time.

Jamie Dunphy
Oregon Government Relations Director
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network