



Representative Bryce Edgmon
Speaker of the House
Alaska State Capitol, Room 208
Juneau, AK 99801

April 12, 2018

Dear Speaker Edgmon:

On behalf of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights and the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, we write to you today to express unwavering support for Alaska's Senate Bill 63 (SB63) as passed by the Senate, a bill that would make virtually all public places and workplaces in Alaska smoke-free, including the use of electronic cigarettes.

This important public health policy would ensure that employees and patrons across Alaska are fully protected from toxic secondhand smoke, which, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is estimated to kill over 41,000 Americans per year. Secondhand smoke is a known cause of lung cancer, heart disease and stroke.

The U.S. Surgeon General has confirmed that any exposure to secondhand smoke is unsafe and to fully protect people from exposure, we must eliminate smoking in indoor spaces. Separating smokers from nonsmokers, cleaning the air and ventilating buildings does not eliminate the health risks associated with exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke.

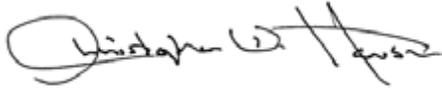
In addition, the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), the international standards setting body and cognizant authority on ventilation and acceptable indoor air quality, has concluded the only way to eliminate the health risks from secondhand smoke in indoor environments is to exclusively prohibit smoking activity.

Our organizations also strongly believe that electronic smoking devices (i.e. e-cigarettes and related e-products), should be included in comprehensive smoke-free laws. The U.S. Surgeon General concluded in a December 2016 report that e-cigarette aerosol is not harmless, and can contain harmful and potentially harmful chemicals, including nicotine, heavy metals, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and ultrafine particulates. Additionally, electronic smoking device exemptions make it challenging to enforce smoke-free policies.

The proposed bill has been thoroughly vetted over the past five years in Alaska's legislative process, and has strong public, business, and decision maker support. Our organizations strongly urge you and the members of the Alaska House of Representatives to pass SB63 in its Senate-approved form. Passing

this comprehensive smoke-free workplace law will protect Alaska's workers and patrons from secondhand smoke and e-cigarette aerosol.

Sincerely,



Chris Hansen
President
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network



Nancy Brown
CEO
American Heart Association



Harold P. Wimmer
National President and CEO
American Lung Association



Cynthia Hallett
President and CEO
Americans for Nonsmokers Rights



Matt Myers
President
Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids

CC: Representative Chris Tuck, Majority Leader
Representative Gabrielle LeDoux, Rules Committee Chair
Representative Neil Foster, Finance Committee Co-Chair
Representative Paul Seaton, Finance Committee Co-Chair
Representative Louise Stutes, Majority Whip
Representative Charisse Millett, Minority Leader