

TFOCC NEWS

Issue 4

July 2009

Tobacco Prevention and Control Funding Cut Becomes a Law

Wisconsin's tobacco prevention and control efforts have suffered a devastating hit. Governor Doyle signed into law the state's budget which includes a 55% cut in funding for Wisconsin's Tobacco Prevention and Control Program. With just one-tenth of the funding recommended by the Centers for Disease Control, Wisconsin's Tobacco Prevention and Control Program is going to face a tough two years. Smokers are going to have to look harder and pay more for the help they need to quit. Advocates and regional health programs that provide prevention resources to young people will be cut.

For volunteers, however, this funding cut should be a rallying cry. With less presence from the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program, young people and smokers in your state will need your help. Consider educating your legislators and local media about the funding cut's effects on tobacco prevention and control, and how important these funds are for your community's smokers and young people. For the next two years, your efforts to stop tobacco in Wisconsin are more important than ever.

For more information on what happens when tobacco program funding is cut, please see this fact sheet put together by tobacco free kids:

<http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0270.pdf>

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Tobacco Prevention and Control Funding Cut Becomes Law
- 1 Other Tobacco Issues in State Budget
- 2 President Obama Signs Historic Legislation
- 2 Tobacco Checks Continue to be Successful in Oneida County

4TH OF JULY FLOAT



JWMS FACT created a float that was on display in the 4th of July parade. The float incorporated three messages: Unhealthy pig lungs, how Big Tobacco Companies target children, and the harmful ingredients in cigarettes and secondhand smoke. The students also handed out FACT flyers and candy to the crowd.

Other Tobacco Issues in State Budget

Here are the details on a few other tobacco issues in the state's budget:

- How moist snuff and tobacco products other than cigarettes are priced – Tobacco products other than cigarettes are currently taxed depending on their weight. Tobacco control advocates won on this one: Taxation will be changed to a system that taxes snuff and snus by a percentage of the product's price.
- Other tobacco products tax rate: products other than cigarettes and moist snuff will be taxed at a higher rate.
- Cigar taxes – Legislators voted against raising the cigar tax cap by 21 cents, as Governor Doyle proposed and health advocates had hoped.
- Cigarette tax: the legislature voted to raise the cigarette tax by 75 cents. Every pack of cigarettes sold in Wisconsin will pay a total of \$2.52 in taxes, making Wisconsin's tax one of the nations highest.

President Obama Signs Historic Tobacco Legislation

President Obama has signed truly historic legislation to grant the U.S. Food and Drug Administration the authority to regulate tobacco products.

The “Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act” amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA) to grant the FDA authority to regulate the manufacturing, marketing, and sale of tobacco products.

This legislation will:

- Restrict tobacco marketing and sales to youth
- Grant FDA authority to further restrict tobacco marketing
- Require detailed disclosure of ingredients, nicotine and harmful smoke constituents
- Allow FDA to require changes to tobacco products to protect the public health
- Regulate “reduced harm” claims about tobacco products to prevent inaccurate and misleading claims
- Require bigger, graphic health warnings
- Fully fund FDA regulation of tobacco products through a user fee on manufacturers of cigarettes, cigarette tobacco, and smokeless tobacco
- Preserve state and local authority

The legislation is supported by more than 1,000 public health, faith, and other organizations around the country. Supporting organizations include the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, and the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. Recent surveys have found that 70% of voters support this legislation.

There's Help To Quit Smoking

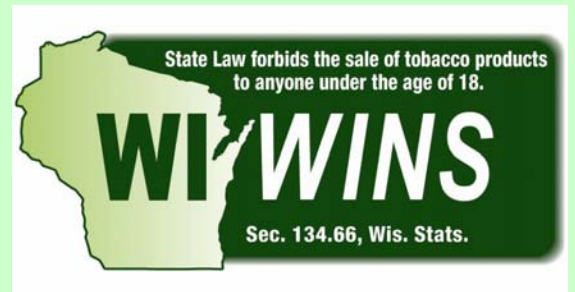
If you smoke and want to quit, or know someone who does, visit the Wisconsin Quit Line at <http://www.WiQuitLine.org> or call 1-800-QUIT-NOW. You'll talk to a friendly quit coach who will send you a free two-week supply of quit-tobacco medications, plus help you develop strategies on how to quit that are just right for you. The Quit Line has already helped more than 123,500 callers just like you.



Tobacco Checks Continue to be Successful in Oneida County

Good news for Oneida County in their efforts to limit tobacco access to minors. As of July 3, 2009, 71 tobacco compliance checks were completed by Oneida County Health Department and just 3 businesses were cited for selling tobacco to a minor. “That’s approximately 4%, a big change from 8 years ago, when 38% of retailers were selling to kids,” said Niki Kostrova, Tobacco Control Coordinator for Oneida County.

The Wisconsin Wins Program was introduced in 2001 by the Oneida County Health Department in an attempt to decrease access of tobacco products to minors.



MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Tobacco-Free Oneida County Coalition Meeting

will be held on

Monday

August 3, 2009

5:30 – 6:30 PM

at the

**Riverside Clinic – Ministry
Health Care**

1020 Kabel Avenue

Rhinelanders

Conference Room 1 (Fish Bowl)

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