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# TFOCC NEWS

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## Bill to Amend Statewide Smoking Ban

Wisconsin inns and hotels would be able to allow smoking in up to 25% of their rooms under a bill in the Legislature that would amend the statewide smoking ban.

The bill would permit smoking only in a hotel's designated rooms and would not affect the ban on smoking in bars or restaurants.

State Rep. Gary Sherman, author of the bill, said without the exemptions, the statewide ban creates a "trap" for people like him who become ill when exposed to secondhand smoke, but who do not know which hotel rooms have been smoked in if there are no designated rooms.

"Bars and taverns deserve an exemption if hotels receive one" said Pete Madland, executive director of the Wisconsin Tavern League, who opposes the bill.

Maureen Busalacchi, executive director of Smoke-Free Wisconsin, said her group is neutral. She said she had some concerns about the health of workers who clean smoking rooms, but also said there is a valid public health argument for designating certain rooms for smoking.

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## Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act

On June 22, 2009, President Obama signed the historic Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act, giving the Food and Drug Administration authority to regulate the manufacturing, marketing, and sale of tobacco products. This landmark legislation will give states and local jurisdictions important new authority to restrict cigarette advertising and promotion, while reserving for the federal government the exclusive authority to regulate the design of tobacco products themselves.

Given the scope and complexity of the new legislation, you may have questions about the law's effect on local and state policies. The Tobacco Control Legal Consortium is pleased to introduce two new publications that we hope will address some of your questions.

*Federal Regulation of Tobacco Products: A Summary. A series of fact sheets on key provisions of the new legislation.*

*Federal Regulation of Tobacco Products: Impact on State and Local Authority. A series of fact sheets on how the new federal law is likely to affect state and local governments.*

Both of these publications are available at <http://www.tobaccolawcenter.org/FDA-fact-sheets.html>

In the coming months the Consortium will be developing additional materials to address legal issues raised by the new legislation, to help state and local advocates take full advantage of the new opportunities it creates.

The Consortium's main concern will be to provide the public health community with timely, accurate, and practical information.

## Tobacco Prevention and Control Program Budget

The Wisconsin TPCP is moving forward with critical statewide tobacco prevention and control initiatives while supporting Wisconsin smokers who want to quit in 2009 and 2010. As a result of the 55% decrease in TPCP funding, reductions to all program areas were required. When making the funding decisions, the Department of Health Services Secretary and the Division of Public Health Division Administrator considered TPCP recommendations based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programs and CDC recommendations to states experiencing drastic budget reductions. Despite the funding cuts, the TPCP is committed to implementing a comprehensive Wisconsin-specific approach that takes into account:

### CDC Goal Areas

- *Preventing initiation among youth and young adults*
- *Promoting quitting among adults and youth*
- *Eliminating exposure to secondhand smoke*
- *Identifying and eliminating tobacco-related disparities among population groups*

### Wisconsin-Specific Priorities

- *Smoke-Free Air Law Implementation*
- *Program sustainability*
- *Implementation of multi-jurisdictional coalitions*
- *Eliminating tobacco related disparities and improving healthy birth outcomes*
- *Future policy options*

## Oneida County Smoke-Free Air Law Business Survey

The Tobacco-Free Oneida County Coalition conducted a survey to businesses in Oneida County to assist with the implementation of the upcoming Smoke-Free Air Law. The survey was designed to determine how businesses are planning to go smoke-free and how we could provide any information and assistance that may be necessary.

There were 57 respondents to the survey with a majority of them requesting resources and information on the new Smoke-Free Law, the Wisconsin Tobacco Quit Line, and on how to make their workplace smoke-free.

The businesses were sent the information they requested to help increase awareness and provide education.

The state is currently working on a business outreach package that will include some additional resources and signage, but will not be available until sometime in February 2010. There will also be an implementation website available in January 2010.

If you need additional information or have any questions, please call (715) 369-6115.

## MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

### Tobacco-Free Oneida County Coalition Meeting

will be held on

**Monday**

**October 5, 2009**

**5:30 – 6:30 PM**

at the

**Riverside Clinic – Ministry  
Health Care**

**1020 Kabel Avenue**

**Rhineland**

**Conference Room 1 (Fish Bowl)**

### 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.

