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Short Title: Prohibit Smoking in Certain Public Places. (Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

January 29, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT SMOKING IN CERTAIN PUBLIC PLACES AND CERTAIN
3 PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Effective January 2, 2010, Article 23 of Chapter 130A of the General
6 Statutes reads as rewritten:

7 "Article 23.

8 "Smoking ~~Prohibited~~ in Public ~~Places~~. Places and Places of Employment.

9 ~~Part 1. Smoking in State Government Buildings.~~ Part 1A. Findings and Intent.

10 "**§ 130A-491. Legislative findings and intent.**

11 (a) Findings. – The General Assembly finds that secondhand smoke has been proven to
12 cause cancer, heart disease, and asthma attacks in both smokers and nonsmokers. In 2006, a
13 report issued by the United States Surgeon General stated that the scientific evidence indicates
14 that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke.

15 (b) Intent. – It is the intent of the General Assembly to protect the health of individuals
16 in public places and places of employment and riding in State government vehicles ~~working in~~
17 ~~or visiting State government buildings~~ from the risks related to secondhand smoke. It is further
18 the intent of the General Assembly to ~~protect the health of individuals driving or riding in~~
19 ~~State controlled passenger carrying vehicles assigned permanently or temporarily to State~~
20 ~~employees or State agencies or institutions for official State business.~~ allow local governments
21 to adopt local laws governing smoking within their jurisdictions that are more restrictive than
22 the State law.

23 "**§ 130A-492. Definitions.**

24 The following definitions apply in this Article:

25 (1) "Bar". – An establishment with a permit to sell alcoholic beverages pursuant
26 to subdivision (1), (3), (5), or (10) of G.S. 18B-1001.

27 (1a) "Cigar bar". – An establishment with a permit to sell alcoholic beverages
28 pursuant to subdivision (1), (3), (5), or (10) of G.S. 18B-1001 that satisfies
29 all of the following:



- 1 a. Generates sixty percent (60%) or more of its quarterly gross revenue
2 from the sale of alcoholic beverages and twenty-five percent (25%)
3 or more of its quarterly gross revenue from the sale of cigars;
4 b. Has a humidor on the premises; and
5 c. Does not allow individuals under the age of 21 to enter the premises.
6 Revenue generated from other tobacco sales, including cigarette vending
7 machines, shall not be used to determine whether an establishment satisfies
8 the definition of cigar bar.
9 (1b) "Employee". – A person who is employed by an employer, or who contracts
10 with an employer or third person to perform services for an employer, or
11 who otherwise performs services for an employer with or without
12 compensation.
13 (2) "Employer". – An individual person, business, association, political
14 subdivision, or other public or private entity, including a nonprofit entity,
15 that employs or contracts for or accepts the provision of services from one or
16 more employees.
17 (3) "Enclosed area". – An area with a roof or other overhead covering of any
18 kind and walls or side coverings of any kind, regardless of the presence of
19 openings for ingress and egress, on all sides or on all sides but one.
20 (4) "Grounds". – An unenclosed area owned, leased, or occupied by State or
21 local government.
22 (5) "Local government". – A local political subdivision of this State, an airport
23 authority, or an authority or body created by an ordinance, joint resolution,
24 or rules of any such entity.
25 (6) "Local government building". – A building owned, leased as lessor, or the
26 area leased as lessee and occupied by a local government.
27 (7) "Lodging establishment". – An establishment that provides lodging for pay
28 to the public.
29 (8) "Local vehicle". – A passenger-carrying vehicle owned, leased, or otherwise
30 controlled by local government and assigned permanently or temporarily by
31 local government to local government employees, agencies, institutions, or
32 facilities for official local government business.
33 (8a) "Private club". – A country club or an organization that maintains selective
34 members, is operated by the membership, does not provide food or lodging
35 for pay to anyone who is not a member or a member's guest, and is either
36 incorporated as a nonprofit corporation in accordance with Chapter 55A of
37 the General Statutes or is exempt from federal income tax under the Internal
38 Revenue Code as defined in G.S. 105-130.2(1). For the purposes of this
39 Article, private club includes country club.
40 (8b) "Private residence". – A private dwelling that is not a child care facility, as
41 defined in G.S. 110-86(3), and not a long-term care facility, as defined in
42 G.S. 131E-114.3(a)(1).
43 (8c) "Private vehicle". – A privately owned vehicle that is not used for
44 commercial or employment purposes.
45 (8d) "Public place". – An enclosed area to which the public is invited or in which
46 the public is permitted.
47 (8e) "Restaurant". – A food and lodging establishment that prepares and serves
48 drink or food as regulated by the Commission pursuant to Part 6 of Article 8
49 of this Chapter.
50 (9) "Smoking". – The use or possession of a lighted cigarette, lighted cigar,
51 lighted pipe, or any other lighted tobacco product.

- 1 (10) "State government". – The political unit for the State of North Carolina,
2 including all agencies of the executive, judicial, and legislative branches of
3 government.
- 4 (11) "State government building". – A building owned, leased as lessor, or the
5 area leased as lessee and occupied by State government.
- 6 (12) "State vehicle". – A passenger-carrying vehicle owned, leased, or otherwise
7 controlled by the State and assigned permanently or temporarily to a State
8 employee or State agency or institution for official State business.
- 9 (13) "Tobacco shop". – A business establishment, the main purpose of which is
10 the sale of tobacco, tobacco products, and accessories for such products, that
11 receives no less than seventy-five percent (75%) of its total annual revenues
12 from the sale of tobacco, tobacco products, and accessories for such
13 products, and does not serve food or alcohol on its premises.

14 "Part 1B. Smoking Prohibited in State Government Buildings and Vehicles.

15 **"§ 130A-493. Smoking prohibited in State government buildings and State ~~vehicles~~**
16 **prohibited vehicles.**

17 (a) Notwithstanding Article 64 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes pertaining to
18 State-controlled buildings, smoking is prohibited inside State government buildings except as
19 provided in subsection (b) of this section. ~~As to smoking rooms in residence halls that were~~
20 ~~permitted by G.S. 143-597(a)(6), this Article becomes effective beginning with the 2008-2009~~
21 ~~academic year.~~

22 (b) Smoking is permitted inside State government buildings that are used for medical or
23 scientific research to the extent that smoking is an integral part of the research. Smoking
24 permitted under this subsection shall be confined to the area where the research is being
25 conducted.

26 (c) The individual in charge of the State government building or the individual's
27 designee shall post signs in conspicuous areas of the building. The signs shall state that
28 "smoking is prohibited" and may include the international "No Smoking" symbol, which
29 consists of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a red
30 bar across it. In addition, ~~in any State psychiatric hospital, the person who owns, manages,~~
31 ~~operates, or otherwise controls the hospital shall:~~ the individual in charge of the building or the
32 individual's designee shall:

- 33 (1) ~~Direct any a~~ person who is smoking inside the facility building to extinguish
34 the lighted smoking product.
- 35 (2) ~~Provide~~ In a State psychiatric hospital, provide written notice to individuals
36 upon admittance that smoking is prohibited inside the facility building and
37 obtain the signature of the individual or the individual's representative
38 acknowledging receipt of the notice.

39 (c1) Smoking is prohibited inside State vehicles. The individual or the individual's
40 designee in charge of assigning the vehicle shall place one or more signs in conspicuous areas
41 of the vehicle. The signs shall state that "smoking is prohibited" and may include the
42 international "No Smoking" symbol, which consists of a pictorial representation of a burning
43 cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a red bar across it. If the vehicle is used for undercover
44 law enforcement operations, a sign is not required to be placed in the vehicle as provided in this
45 subsection.

46 (d) Notwithstanding G.S. 130A-25, a violation of Article 23 of this Chapter shall not be
47 punishable as a misdemeanor.

48 **"§ 130A-494. Other prohibitions.**

49 Nothing in this Article repeals any other law prohibiting smoking, nor does it limit any law
50 allowing regulation or prohibition of smoking on walkways or on the grounds of buildings.

51 **"§ 130A-495. Rules.**

1 The Commission shall adopt rules to implement this Part.

2 "Part 1C. Smoking Prohibited in Restaurants and Bars.

3 **"§ 130A-496. Smoking prohibited in restaurants and bars.**

4 (a) Notwithstanding Article 64 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes, smoking is
5 prohibited in all enclosed areas of restaurants and bars, except as provided in subsection (b) of
6 this section.

7 (b) Smoking may be permitted in the following places:

8 (1) A designated smoking guest room in a lodging establishment. No greater
9 than twenty percent (20%) of a lodging establishment's guest rooms may be
10 designated smoking guest rooms.

11 (2) A cigar bar if smoke from the cigar bar does not migrate into an enclosed
12 area where smoking is prohibited pursuant to this Article. A cigar bar that
13 begins operation after July 1, 2009, may only allow smoking if it is located
14 in a freestanding structure occupied solely by the cigar bar and smoke from
15 the cigar bar does not migrate into an enclosed area where smoking is
16 prohibited pursuant to this Article. To qualify under this subsection, the
17 cigar bar must satisfactorily report on a quarterly basis to the Department, on
18 a form prescribed by the Department, the revenue generated from the sale of
19 alcoholic beverages and cigars as a percentage of quarterly gross revenue.
20 The Department shall determine whether any additional documentation is
21 required of the cigar bar to authenticate or verify revenue data submitted by
22 the cigar bar. This subdivision shall not apply to any business that is
23 established for the purpose of avoiding compliance with this Article.

24 (3) A private club.

25 **"§ 130A-497. Implementation and enforcement.**

26 (a) A person who manages, operates, or controls a restaurant or bar in which smoking is
27 prohibited shall:

28 (1) Conspicuously post signs clearly stating that smoking is prohibited. The
29 signs may include the international "No Smoking" symbol, which consists of
30 a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with
31 a red bar across it.

32 (2) Remove all indoor ashtrays and other smoking receptacles.

33 (3) Direct a person who is smoking to extinguish the lighted tobacco product.

34 (b) Continuing to smoke in a nonsmoking area described in this Part following oral or
35 written notice by the person in charge of the area or the person's designee constitutes an
36 infraction, and the person committing the infraction may be punished by a fine of not more than
37 fifty dollars (\$50.00).

38 (c) Conviction of an infraction under this section has no consequence other than
39 payment of a penalty. A person found responsible for a violation of this section may not be
40 assessed court costs.

41 (d) Notwithstanding G.S. 130A-25, a violation of this Part shall not be punishable as a
42 misdemeanor.

43 (e) Administrative penalties imposed under G.S. 130A-22(h1) against a person who
44 manages, operates, or controls a restaurant or bar and fails to comply with the provisions of this
45 Article and the rules adopted by the Commission to implement the provisions of this Article
46 shall only be enforced by a local health director.

47 (f) The Commission shall adopt rules to implement the provisions of this Article.

48 "Part 2. Local Government Regulation of Smoking.

49 **"§ 130A-498. Local governments may restrict smoking in public places.**

50 (a) Notwithstanding ~~Except~~ as otherwise provided in subsection (b1) of this section,
51 and notwithstanding any other provision of Article 64 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes to

1 the contrary, a local government may adopt an ordinance, law, or rule restricting smoking in
2 accordance with subsection (b) of this section and enforce ordinances, board of health rules,
3 and policies restricting or prohibiting smoking that are more restrictive than State law and that
4 apply in local government buildings, on local government grounds, in local vehicles, or in
5 public places. A rule or policy adopted on and after July 1, 2009 pursuant to this subsection by
6 a local board of health or an entity exercising the powers of a local board of health must be
7 approved by an ordinance adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of the county to
8 which the rule applies. The definitions set forth in G.S. 130A-492 in Part 1A of this Article
9 apply to this section and shall apply to any local ordinance, rule, or law adopted by a local
10 government under this section.

11 (b) ~~Any local ordinance, law, or rule authorized under this section may restrict smoking~~
12 ~~only in:~~

- 13 (1) ~~Buildings owned, leased as lessor, or the area leased as lessee and occupied~~
14 ~~by local government;~~
- 15 (2) ~~Building and grounds wherein local health departments and departments of~~
16 ~~social services are housed;~~
- 17 (3) ~~Repealed by Session Laws 2007-193, s. 3.1, effective August 1, 2008.~~
- 18 (4) ~~Any place on a public transportation vehicle owned or leased by local~~
19 ~~government and used by the public; and~~
- 20 (5) ~~Any place in a local vehicle.~~

21 (b1) A local ordinance or other rules, laws, or policies adopted under this section may
22 not restrict or prohibit smoking in the following places:

- 23 (1) A private residence.
- 24 (2) A private vehicle.
- 25 (3) A tobacco shop if smoke from the business does not migrate into an
26 enclosed area where smoking is prohibited pursuant to this Article. A
27 tobacco shop that begins operation after July 1, 2009, may only allow
28 smoking if it is located in a freestanding structure occupied solely by the
29 tobacco shop and smoke from the shop does not migrate into an enclosed
30 area where smoking is prohibited pursuant to this Article.
- 31 (4) All of the premises, facilities, and vehicles owned, operated, or leased by
32 any tobacco products processor or manufacturer, or any tobacco leaf grower,
33 processor, or dealer.
- 34 (5) A designated smoking guest room in a lodging establishment. No greater
35 than twenty percent (20%) of a lodging establishment's guest rooms may be
36 designated smoking guest rooms.
- 37 (6) A cigar bar if smoke from the cigar bar does not migrate into an enclosed
38 area where smoking is prohibited pursuant to this Article. A cigar bar that
39 begins operation after July 1, 2009, may only allow smoking if it is located
40 in a freestanding structure occupied solely by the cigar bar and smoke from
41 the cigar bar does not migrate into an enclosed area where smoking is
42 prohibited pursuant to this Article. To qualify under this subsection, the
43 cigar bar must satisfactorily report on a quarterly basis to the Department, on
44 a form prescribed by the Department, the revenue generated from the sale of
45 alcoholic beverages and cigars as a percentage of quarterly gross revenue.
46 The Department shall determine whether any additional documentation is
47 required of the cigar bar to authenticate or verify revenue data submitted by
48 the cigar bar. This subdivision shall not apply to any business that is
49 established for the purpose of avoiding compliance with this Article.
- 50 (7) A private club.

1 (8) A motion picture, television, theater, or other live production set. This
2 exemption applies only to the actor or performer portraying the use of
3 tobacco products during the production.

4 (e) ~~As used in this Part, "local government" means any local political subdivision of~~
5 ~~this State, any airport authority, or any authority or body created by any ordinance, joint~~
6 ~~resolution, or rules of any such entity. As used in this Part, "local government" does not include~~
7 ~~community colleges as defined in G.S. 115D-2(2).~~

8 (c1) Continuing to smoke in violation of a local ordinance or other rules, laws, or
9 policies adopted under this section constitutes an infraction, and the person committing the
10 infraction may be punished by a fine of not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00). Conviction of an
11 infraction under this section has no consequence other than payment of a penalty. A person
12 smoking in violation of a local ordinance or other rules, laws, or policies adopted under this
13 section may not be assessed court costs.

14 (d) ~~As used in this Part, "grounds" means the area located within 50 linear feet of a~~
15 ~~building wherein a local health department or a local department of social services is housed.~~

16 (d1) Notwithstanding G.S. 130A-25 or any other provision of law, a violation of a local
17 ordinance, rule, law, or policy adopted under this section shall not be punishable as a
18 misdemeanor.

19 (d2) A local government may enforce an ordinance, rule, law, or policy under this
20 section against a person who manages, operates, or controls a public place only as provided in
21 G.S. 130A-22(h1).

22 (e) A county ordinance adopted under this section is subject to the provisions of
23 G.S. 153A-122.

24 **"§ 130A-499 through 130A-500: Reserved for future codification purposes."**

25 **SECTION 2.** Effective January 2, 2010, G.S. 130A-22 is amended by adding a
26 new subsection to read:

27 "(h1) A local health director may take the following actions and may impose the
28 following administrative penalty on a person who manages, operates, or controls a public place
29 or place of employment and fails to comply with the provisions of Part 1C of Article 23 of this
30 Chapter or with rules adopted thereunder or with local ordinances, rules, laws, or policies
31 adopted pursuant to Part 2 of Article 23 of this Chapter:

32 (1) First violation. – Provide the person in violation with written notice of the
33 person's first violation and notification of action to be taken in the event of
34 subsequent violations.

35 (2) Second violation. – Provide the person in violation with written notice of the
36 person's second violation and notification of administrative penalties to be
37 imposed for subsequent violations.

38 (3) Subsequent violations. – Impose on the person in violation an administrative
39 penalty of not more than two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for the third and
40 subsequent violations.

41 Each day on which a violation of this Article or rules adopted pursuant to this Article
42 occurs may be considered a separate and distinct violation. Notwithstanding G.S. 130A-25, a
43 violation of Article 23 of this Chapter shall not be punishable as a criminal violation."

44 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.