



The Health and Economic Benefits of Making Alaska Smoke-Free

Making all Alaska workplaces, restaurants, and bars 100% smoke-free would prevent about 1,900 youth from becoming smokers, and within five years, save an estimated \$5.04 million in lung cancer, heart attack, and stroke costs.

According to the Surgeon General, the science is clear: There is no safe level of exposure to second-hand smoke. Just as tobacco smoke causes lung cancer, heart attacks, strokes, and other preventable diseases in smokers, secondhand smoke causes disease and death in non-smokers, as well. Smoke-free laws not only decrease exposure to tobacco smoke and the resulting disease and death, they also decrease the number of youth who start smoking, increase the number of smokers who quit, and cut health care costs for smokers and non-smokers alike.

Alaska is one of only 15 states that currently has no law prohibiting smoking in all workplaces or restaurants or bars. Making all workplaces, restaurants, and bars in the state 100% smoke-free is the **only** way to protect all Alaska residents from the dangers of secondhand smoke.

SAVING LIVES

Making all Alaska workplaces, restaurants, and bars 100% smoke-free would be expected to provide the following reductions in the number of smokers and the number of deaths caused by smoking or exposure to tobacco smoke:*

Adults Who Would Quit Smoking	Youth Who Would Never Start Smoking	Reduction in Smoking-Related Deaths	Reduction in Deaths of Non-Smokers
4,500	1,900	2,800	300

SAVING MONEY

In addition to saving lives, making Alaska smoke-free would cut health care costs for both smokers and non-smokers. Over five years, a comprehensive smoke-free law covering all Alaska workplaces, restaurants, and bars would be expected to produce the following economic benefits:*

Lung Cancer Treatment Savings	Heart Attack and Stroke Treatment Savings	State's Medicaid Program Savings	Smoking-Related Pregnancy Treatment Savings
\$1.35M	\$3.69M	\$520,000	\$980,000

*Estimates are based on analysis performed on behalf of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network. Totals in charts have been rounded.

