



Legislative Update
June 30, 2006

Please read and forward to your colleagues and networks!

HB 1133 Approved by full House!!! General Assembly Buildings One Small Step from 100% Smoke-Free

Today, by a vote of 95 to 14, the full House approved HB 1133 and took a *giant* historic step toward making all areas of the General Assembly buildings 100% smoke-free (HB 1133). House approval comes just two weeks after the Senate approved HB 1133 by a vote of 46-1.

The lead sponsor of HB 1133, Rep. Rick Glazier (D-Fayetteville), has handled the bill masterfully through all stages of the legislative process. He has earned our unending respect and an enormous thanks from the Alliance and its members and partners. Senator Bill Purcell (D-Scotland) has been a key player in promoting HB 1133 and was responsible for the easy road the bill had in the Senate. Please take a moment to thank both legislators for their leadership to make the General Assembly buildings smoke-free.

During the debate today, there were statements made about the individual rights of smokers (Rep. David Lewis, R-Harnett) and why legislators would not be allowed to smoke in their own offices (Rep. Bill Daughtridge, R-Nash). But the stronger comments came from our supporters including, Rep. Glazier, Rep. Alma Adams (D-Guilford) and Rep. Carolyn Justice (R-Pender). Rep. Justice made a powerful reference to being a cancer survivor herself and asked that legislators vote for the bill so that she would not get cancer again.

One small step remains for this bill – this bill must be signed by Governor Easley. In previous conversations with the Governor's staff, they have not seen any reason why the Governor would not sign HB 1133. But we have learned that with tobacco policy debates in North Carolina, you never say it's over til it's really over. We will keep you posted on the news we receive from the Governor's office about this bill.

The House has always presented the larger challenge for gaining support for tobacco cessation and prevention legislation. Approval by the full House is a huge accomplishment for the legislators who worked hard to push this bill through the legislative process as well as all of the advocates from across the state who worked tirelessly to raise awareness with their legislators about the dangers of secondhand smoke. This is a day for celebration for a very symbolic victory.

Thank you to all the Alliance members and partners as well as their members, staff, volunteers and board members who worked to make this policy change happen. It is a testament to what can happen when you work together in coalition!

THANK YOU!

There is one small step remaining for our grassroots advocates: *[please take a moment to thank your representative and senator for their votes to make the General Assembly buildings smoke-free](#)*. We need them to know how much we appreciate what they have done and what a tremendous step they have taken to protect the health of all North Carolinians who come to visit or do business at the General Assembly.

How to Contact Your Representative

All House and Senate members can be reached by calling 919-733-4111 and asking for your legislator by name.

If you are not sure of the name of your House or Senate member, check the General Assembly's website at:

[http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/GIS/Representation/Who_Represents_Me/Who_Represents_Me.htm](http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/GIS/Representation/Who_Represents_Me/Who_Represents_Me.html)
l

THANK YOU TO ALL!

For additional information about secondhand smoke issues or NC's cigarette tax, access the Alliance website at www.ncallianceforhealth.org for talking points and other resources.

Call 919-463-8328
or e-mail ncalliance@heart.org for more information