

Dear Rep. Brunk,

I was recently informed that allowing smoking in bars is being considered again. I quit smoking some years ago and consequently, quit going to bars or clubs because I couldn't stand the smoke. I have always enjoyed live music and dancing and have started going out again with friends because there isn't any smoking allowed inside. If smoking is allowed to go on again, my friends and I will quit going anywhere but Uncle Bo's in Topeka at the Ramada because smoking was never allowed there. It is gross enough that my hair and clothing smell like smoke from walking through the smokers at the door of bars and clubs without having it brought back inside. Furthermore, employees are exposed to the secondhand smoke which makes an unsafe work environment. In small towns like Perry, KS, where I live, the Perry Pub and American Legion aren't just for adults. Families come in there to eat and play pool as well. If smoking were allowed again, their children would be exposed and it sets a bad examples for the adolescents and teens. Please don't take a step backwards and allow smoking. No one should be smoking inside anywhere. I know smokers want to be able to smoke wherever they go; they are addicted and addicts fight to keep a steady supply of their nicotine. I know because I was one for 18 years, and because I was one, I have to stay as far away from smoke as possible.

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