



**KANSAS ACADEMY OF  
FAMILY PHYSICIANS  
CARING FOR KANSANS**

**Testimony: House Bill 2690  
House Federal & State Affairs Committee  
March 12, 2012  
By: Deborah S. Clements, MD, President**

Chairman Brunk and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on House Bill 2690 on behalf of the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians. KAFP represents over 1,560 practicing, resident and medical student members from across this great state of Kansas. The mission of the Kansas Academy of Family Physicians is to promote access to and excellence in health care for all Kansans through education and advocacy for family physicians and their patients. As family physicians, we see people of all ages, both men and women, and we work with almost every type of ailment and illness that afflicts our patients. We see the effects of smoking and of secondhand smoke in our practices every day.

We oppose HB 2690, which would allow smoking in businesses with clientele and employees over 21, weakening our Kansas Clean Air Act.

Secondhand smoke causes premature death and disease in children and in adults who do not smoke. Exposure of adults to secondhand smoke has immediate adverse effects on the cardiovascular system and causes coronary heart disease and lung cancer. Scientific evidence indicates that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke. Eliminating smoking in indoor spaces fully protects nonsmokers from exposure to secondhand smoke.

Scientific data clearly shows that secondhand smoke is a very real public health threat. The negative health effects of tobacco use and secondhand smoke are well-documented. **As a family physician, the very sickest people I see in my clinic, the ER and our hospital are those who have damaged their lungs, hearts and blood vessels by smoking or by being exposed to secondhand smoke.**

In conclusion, **we urge you to vote no on HB 2690.** Clean Indoor Air is strongly supported in communities across the state and by the general public across Kansas. **Secondhand smoke is a public health issue, not just a nuisance.** We urge you to oppose ANY measure that would weaken the Clean Air Act or add more exemptions.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide testimony.

House Federal & State Affairs

Date: 3-12-12

Attachment # 19

www.kafponline.org

**President**  
Deborah S Clements MD FAAFP KS City

**President-Elect**  
Christian Cupp MD Scott City

**Vice President**  
Mary Beth Miller MD St Francis

**Secretary**  
Douglas J Gruenbacher MD Quinter

**Treasurer**  
Todd A Miller MD Wichita

**Board Chair**  
Jennifer L Brull MD Plainville

**Delegates**  
Carol A Johnson MD Bel Air  
Michael L Munger MD Overland Park

**Alternate Delegates**  
Joe D Davison MD Wichita  
Michael L Kennedy MD Kansas City

**Directors**  
Jennifer Bacani McKenney MD Fredonia  
Sheryl Beard MD Wichita  
Michael Engelken MD Topeka  
John Feehan MD Olathe  
Lynn Fisher MD Plainville  
Wakon Fowler MD Pratt

Cayle Goertzen MD Belleville  
Elizabeth Hineman MD Scott City  
Hannah Maxfield MD Kansas City  
Diane Steere MD Wichita

**Resident Voting Representative**  
Nathan Krug MD Wichita

**Student Voting Representative**  
Colleen Loo-Gross Wichita

**Foundation President**  
Carol A Johnson MD Bel Air

**Executive Director**  
Carolyn N Gaughan CAE Wichita