

Testimony in Support of SB 141.pdf

Uploaded by: Alonzo Washington

Position: FAV



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony in Support of SB 141 – Multifamily Dwellings - Smoking Policies

Many condo buildings in the State of Maryland are old and outdated – leaving families vulnerable to secondhand smoke that can seep through unsealed walls and floors. For adults who do not smoke, breathing secondhand smoke has immediate harmful effects on the heart and blood vessels. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), secondhand smoke causes nearly 34,000 premature deaths from heart disease each year in the United States among adults who do not smoke. Smoking is especially dangerous for newborns and children – there are more than 1,000 infant deaths in the U.S. every year that are related to smoking.

To help address this longstanding problem, I am proposing SB 141 - which will provide more options to families and individuals affected by secondhand smoke. The bill would simply require a common ownership group of multi-family housing to develop a policy on smoking.

It does not take much research to find that being exposed to secondhand smoke poses immediate, serious health risks to Maryland residents – especially to those who are living with underlying medical conditions. Unfortunately, many families in our State have no recourse to file a complaint when faced with a neighbor whose smoking is affecting their health and well-being.

While the provisions laid out in SB 141 are important – they are also not overly burdensome. The bill simply requires ownership of multi-family housing (i.e. condo associations) to create a smoking policy if they do not have one. It must include basic provisions such as:

- The locations where smoking is allowed on the premises.
- Any conditions on the ability to smoke in areas where smoking is authorized.
- Potential fines for violations of the policy; and
- Guidelines to submit a complaint about policy violators.

The requirements laid out in this bill are straightforward steps that every common ownership group should have already been taking – yet many residents throughout our State are left in the dark when faced with this problem. This bill is an important first step in addressing the issue of secondhand smoke in our communities.

For these reasons, I respectfully request a favorable committee report on SB 141.

SB 141 SUPPORT (January 2024).pdf

Uploaded by: Dawn Luedtke

Position: FAV



MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

DAWN LUEDTKE
COUNCILMEMBER
DISTRICT 7

January 24, 2024

The Honorable Senator William C. Smith, Jr.
Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Senate Bill 141, *Multifamily Dwellings - Smoking Policies*

Dear Chairman Smith:

I am writing to urge you to support Senate Bill 141 regarding smoking policies for multifamily dwellings. This bill would require the governing bodies of common ownership communities to develop smoking policies for any multifamily dwelling with four or more units.

Montgomery County adopted a health regulation in 2011 that prohibits smoking in common areas of all multifamily dwellings in the County. It also includes provisions requiring that no smoking notices are placed in these common areas. Senate Bill 141 would give common ownership communities a tool to adopt additional measures as they deem necessary, and make this applicable statewide.

Research shows that secondhand smoke could cause health problems, especially for vulnerable communities such as children and those with existing respiratory challenges. With Maryland legalizing cannabis for recreational use, we must be aware of potential new health risks. While data is limited due to federal restrictions on cannabis consumption, preliminary research shows that secondhand cannabis smoke presents many of the same health risks as tobacco smoke, in addition to carrying enough THC to impact the mental state of a child or someone with low tolerance.^{1,2} This also includes the ability to take measures to protect bystanders from exposure to respiratory irritants, whether it is consumed via a lighted substance, or vaped and releasing aerosolized particles.

In a high-profile 2023 Washington D.C. case, a woman sued over her neighbor's use of cannabis as she claimed it presented a public nuisance and diminished her quality of life.³ By approving this legislation, we are proactively addressing potential similar situations in multifamily dwelling units in the communities we represent.

Sincerely,

Dawn Luedtke
Councilmember, District 7
Montgomery County

cc: Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/marijuana/health-effects/second-hand-smoke.html>

² <https://nida.nih.gov/publications/research-reports/marijuana/what-are-effects-secondhand-exposure-to-marijuana-smoke>

³ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/dc-md-va/2023/01/14/marijuana-smell-lawsuit/>

SB 0141 - JPR - MDH- LOS.docx.pdf

Uploaded by: Jason Caplan

Position: FAV



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary

January 30, 2024

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.
Chair, Judicial Proceedings
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: SB 141 - Multifamily Dwellings - Smoking Policies - Letter of Support

Dear Senator Smith and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) submits this letter of support for Senate Bill 141 (SB 141) entitled “Multifamily Dwellings - Smoking Policies”. SB 141 requires the governing body of a multifamily dwelling common ownership community to develop a smoking policy. While governing bodies are required to develop smoking policies, the bill does not require these policies to prohibit smoking or vaping within multifamily dwellings or on the property.

The current definition for “smoking” outlined in the bill would include tobacco, other lighted matter/substances (e.g., cannabis), and electronic smoking devices (ESDs) (i.e., vapes, electronic cigarettes, etc.). Exposure to secondhand smoke (SHS), secondhand vape (SHV), and cannabis smoke/vape are major public health concerns. SHV, the aerosol users exhale from ESDs, is not harmless water vapor—it contains many of the same toxic chemicals found in cigarette smoke.¹ An estimated 28 million U.S. residents living in multifamily dwellings are exposed to SHS each year.² The home is the primary source of SHS exposure among children, and data collected during the 2021-22 school year reveal that about one-quarter of Maryland high school students live with a current tobacco smoker (26 percent) and report recent exposure to SHS (23 percent).³ Smoke-free policies are the most effective way to fully protect residents and children from involuntary exposure to SHS,⁴ but only 1 in 3 multifamily housing residents in the U.S. are currently covered by smoke-free building policies.⁵

SB 141 focuses on housing such as condominiums. One major concern has been the potential results of enforcing such a policy. However, smoke-free policies do not require individuals to quit smoking or limit housing approvals based on smoking status. Rather, these policies could

¹ American Non-Smokers’ Rights Foundation, “Electronic Smoking Devices and Secondhand Aerosol,” 1 Oct 2023, Accessed 9 Jan 2024, at <<https://no-smoke.org/electronic-smoking-devices-secondhand-aerosol/>>.

² State Tobacco Activities Tracking and Evaluation (STATE) System, “Secondhand Smoke Exposure in Multiunit Housing Facilities Is Detrimental to the Health of Children and Nonsmoking Adults,” 31 Mar 2023, U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Accessed 9 Jan 2024, <<https://www.cdc.gov/statesystem/factsheets/multiunithousing/MultiUnitHousing.html>>.

³ Maryland Department of Health. Youth Risk Behavior Survey/Youth Tobacco Survey (2021-2022). IBIS Dataset Query System. Accessed 9 Jan 2024 at <<https://ibis.health.maryland.gov/ibisph-view/about/Welcome.html>>.

⁴ Ibid fn 2.

⁵ U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “Going Smoke-free Matters: Multiunit Housing,” 14 Sep 2022, Accessed 9 Jan 2024, <<https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/secondhand-smoke/going-smokefree-matters/multi-unit/index.html>>.

designate areas where individuals have access to smoke outdoors in order to protect those indoors and across units. Developing such policies will necessitate a concerted effort among housing providers, residents, local health departments, and community partners.

SB 141 requires developing a smoking policy that is “at least as stringent as the applicable State and local laws regarding smoking”. MDH supports this language, as it is inclusive of local and Statewide standards for smoke-free environments.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Case-Herron, Director of Governmental Affairs at sarah.case-herron@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Laura Herrera Scott, M.D., M.P.H.
Secretary

SB 141 MD-DC Soc Addiction Medicine FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Joseph Adams, MD

Position: FAV



MDDCSAM is the Maryland state chapter of the American Society of Addiction Medicine whose members are physicians and other health providers who treat people with substance use disorders.

SB 141 Multifamily Dwellings - Smoking Policies
FAVORABLE
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

Dear Chairman Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the committee,

We are writing in strong support of SB 141 which primarily addresses consequences of tobacco use disorder.

Individuals typically learn that they are exposed to discomfort and risks only after they have purchased a residential unit, resulting in frustration, disagreements and litigation.

Rather than being burdensome, this will prevent greater burdens due to a lack of clear expectations. It is designed to prevent disease in a flexible manner determined by residents themselves.

Litigation has already resulted (in the District of Columbia) from the lack of a clear process for determining policies in multi-dwelling residential settings.

Second-hand smoke has been classified by the Environmental Protection agency as a Class A human carcinogen for which there is no safe level of exposure. This finding has been confirmed by the U.S. Surgeon General, who has also concluded that separating smokers from nonsmokers in the same building cannot eliminate exposure of nonsmokers to secondhand smoke.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), secondhand smoke causes nearly 34,000 premature deaths from heart disease each year in the United States among adults who do not smoke.

Healthy individuals are susceptible to discomfort and health consequences of second-hand smoke. Some individuals are highly intolerant to second hand smoke and experience a great deal of discomfort. Children, pregnant persons and those with health conditions such as asthma, are at disproportionate risk.

Preliminary data show that secondhand cannabis smoke presents many of the same health risks as tobacco smoke.

Joseph A. Adams, MD, FASAM
Board certified in addiction medicine and internal medicine
Public Policy Committee, MDDCSAM

SB 141 Support Letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Karen Straughn

Position: FAV

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CAROLYN A. QUATTROCKI
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ANTHONY G. BROWN
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January 30, 2024

To: The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.
Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee

From: Karen S. Straughn
Consumer Protection Division

Re: Senate Bill 141 – Multifamily Dwellings – Smoking Policies (SUPPORT)

The Office of the Attorney General submits the following written testimony in support of Senate Bill 141 sponsored by Senator Alonzo T. Washington. This bill requires the governing body of a common ownership community to develop a smoking policy if the property is a multifamily dwelling.

Smoking, including second-hand smoke, leads to disease and disability and harms nearly every organ system of the body. It is the leading cause of preventable death. In addition, there are many unknowns about vaping, including what chemicals make up the vapor and how they affect physical health over the long term. Emerging data suggests links to chronic lung disease and asthma as well as cardiovascular disease. And the legalization of cannabis in Maryland raises additional issues regarding second-hand smoke. When an individual purchases a home in a multi-family dwelling, however, they may be involuntarily exposed to these risks by the actions of their neighbors, which they cannot easily avoid.

By requiring associations to develop a smoking policy that mandates where smoking and vaping may be authorized and where it may be prohibited, as well as establishing fines for violations of the policy, association members can have a role in determining how and where they may be

exposed to these harmful chemicals. Establishing a policy setting clear rules regarding smoking may also help to reduce disputes among neighbors about second-hand smoke.

The Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division has received complaints from residents in common ownership communities who are dismayed by the inability to have any control over whether they are exposed to second-hand smoke. While our office attempts to mediate these concerns, they rarely result in any positive outcome due to the inability of an association to control the actions of their residents in this respect. This bill would provide a greater ability to ensure that those who wish to be protected from second-hand smoke can choose to live in associations which provide greater protections.

For these reasons, we ask that the Judicial Proceedings Committee return a favorable report on this bill.

cc: The Honorable Alonzo T. Washington
Members, Judicial Proceedings Committee

10 - SB 141 FIN - MACHO - LOS.pdf

Uploaded by: State of Maryland (MD)

Position: FAV



2024 SESSION POSITION PAPER

BILL: SB 141 - Multifamily Dwellings – Smoking Policies
COMMITTEE: Senate – Judicial Proceedings Committee
POSITION: Letter of Support
BILL ANALYSIS: SB 141 would require the governing body of a common ownership community to develop a smoking policy if the property subject to the control of the governing body is a multifamily dwelling; generally relating to multifamily dwellings in the State.

POSITION RATIONALE: The Maryland Association of County Health Officers (MACHO) supports the overall goals of SB 141. Instituting residential smoking policies in multifamily dwellings would be a meaningful step toward reducing exposure to secondhand smoke and improving the health of Maryland residents.

Approximately one in four Americans live in multifamily dwellings, and an estimated 28 million U.S. residents living in multifamily dwellings are exposed to secondhand smoke each year.¹ Exposure to secondhand smoke is a major concern, as secondhand smoke exposure can cause coronary heart disease, infant death syndrome, stroke, asthma attacks, and lung cancer.² Additionally, smoking-related fires are the leading cause of fire deaths and even when the smoke clears, the risks remain due to thirdhand smoke, which is a nearly impossible and expensive surface residue to remove that lingers in homes for months.³ The long-term health effects of secondhand vaping exposure are not well understood given how new e-cigarette technology is, but inhaled and exhaled e-cigarette vapor does include nicotine, ultrafine particles, flavoring chemicals, and known carcinogens which makes it just as dangerous as traditional smoke.^{4,5}

Significant inequities exist within multifamily housing, as smoke-free bans are less common among smoking families with older children and in households located in predominantly Black and Hispanic neighborhoods.⁵ As a result, low-income and minority residents are at higher risk of secondhand smoke, with seven in ten Black children in the U.S. being exposed annually.⁶ A recent survey of Maryland teenagers revealed that about one-third of Maryland high school students live with a current tobacco smoker and report recent exposure to secondhand smoke.⁷

While SB 141 does not compel common ownership communities to make their properties smoke-free, the bill does require them to develop a comprehensive smoking policy that outlines locations where smoking and vaping are allowed and prohibited on the property, conditions that allow individuals to smoke or vape in otherwise prohibited areas, a process to file complaints, and any penalties for policy violations. Importantly, SB 141 promotes safe and healthy living environments for residents, while considering the societal and structural factors that may further complicate the living situations of certain individuals who may use smoking as a coping mechanism.⁵ SB 141 does not prevent local jurisdictions from passing more stringent smoking laws or impede nuisance smoking lawsuits. This helps safeguard continued efforts to promote the implementation of comprehensive statewide laws prohibiting smoking in workplaces and public places, smoke-free policies in multiunit housing, and voluntary smoke-free home and vehicle rules to protect nonsmokers from secondhand smoke in the places they live, work, and gather.⁵

For these reasons, the Maryland Association of County Health Officers submits this LOS for the Committee's consideration on SB 141. For more information, please contact Ruth Maiorana, MACHO Executive Director at rmaiora1@jhu.edu or 410-937-1433. *This communication reflects the position of MACHO.*

REFERENCES:

1. King BA, Babb SD, Tynan MA, et al. National and state estimates of secondhand smoke infiltration among U.S. multiunit housing residents. *Nicotine Tob Res.* 2013 Jul; 15(7):1316-21; <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/23248030/>.
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office of Smoking Health. Health Problems Caused by Secondhand Smoke. https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/secondhand-smoke/health.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Ftobacco%2Fdata_statistics%2Ffact_sheets%2Fsecondhand_smoke%2Fhealth_effects%2Findex.htm. Updated November 1, 2022. Accessed January 21, 2023.
3. Tobacco Stops with Me. Smokefree Multiunit Housing: Why It Matters and How to Make It Happen. <https://stopswithme.com/smokefree-multiunit-housing-why-it-matters-and-how-to-make-it-happen/>. Published May 16, 2022.
4. McCabe, B. Is Secondhand Vaping Something to be Concerned About? *Hackensack Meridian Health.* https://www.hackensackmeridianhealth.org/en/HealthU/2019/11/27/is-secondhand-vaping-something-to-be-concerned-about#.Yg_Ic9_MK5c. Published November 27, 2019.
5. American Heart Association, Advocacy Department. Smoke-Free Policies in Multi-Unit Housing Policy Guidance. <https://www.heart.org/-/media/Files/About-Us/Policy-Research/Policy-Positions/Tobacco-Endgame/Multi-Unit-Housing-Smoke-Free-Policy.pdf>. Updated June 2021.
6. Homa DM, Neff LJ, King BA, et al. Vital Signs: Disparities in nonsmokers' exposure to secondhand smoke — United States, 1999–2012. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep.* 2015; 64(4):103-108; https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6404a7.htm?s_cid=mm6404a7_w.
7. Maryland Department of Health. 2021 Youth Pandemic Behavior Survey Detailed Report. <https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/ohpetup/Documents/2021%20Youth%20Pandemic%20Behavior%20Survey%20Detailed%20Report.pdf>. Accessed January 21, 2023.

Senate Bill 141 Written Testimony - 2024.pdf

Uploaded by: Dawnn Mcclarey

Position: FWA

January 29, 2024

Senator William C. Smith, Jr., Chair
Senator Jeff Waldstreicher, Vice Chair
Judiciary Proceedings Committee
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Senate Bill 141: *Multifamily Dwellings - Smoking Policies*

Dear Chair Smith & Vice Chair Waldstreicher:

I am writing you to support Senator Bill 141 but with a few amendments.

My reason in supporting this bill is I am a victim of second and third hand smoke in a “Common Ownership Community” (e.g., Condominium). The smoke that impacted me the most was from Tobacco and Marijuana.

This form of secondhand smoke traveled through the walls, floors, ventilation, balcony, hallways, and stairwells which infiltrated right into my and other condominiums. Our Condominium Board was powerless to do anything about it except consider the smoke a nuisance under their current by-laws.

The question always comes up: **What are Common Ownership Community (COC)** and I felt that Prince George County, Office of Community Relations gave the best example of how it should be defined.

According to them, “there are three kinds of community associations. They are condominiums, homeowners’ associations, and cooperatives. The main difference between the three groups is the ownership:

Condominiums - In a condominium, the individual unit owner owns fee simple title to the air space contained within their unit and an undivided interest in all common grounds, streets and parking, recreation facilities, utilities, and parts of residential structures (i.e., the roof and lobby), which are collectively known as the common elements. A master deed divides the land into units and common elements and sets forth rights, obligations and restrictions of the condominium owner. Owners are obligated to pay assessments.

Homeowners Associations - In a homeowners association, the homeowner owns his/her home in fee simple title and the common grounds and facilities are owned in fee simple by the association as an entity. Open space, recreational and common areas are vested in the homeowners’ association and funds for their upkeep are raised from assessments. Homeowners’ associations are regulated by privately written Declarations of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions.

Continue, Page Two
Comment on Senate Bill 141: Multi-family – Smoking Policies
January 29, 2024

Cooperatives - In cooperative housing, the shareholder does not own real estate, but owns a share of the legal entity that owns real estate. The corporation owns the land, buildings and any common areas. Each resident has membership in the coop association and has occupancy rights to a specific suite” (Prince George County, “*What is a Common Ownership Community*”. <https://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov/-offices/community-relations/about-ocr/services/common-ownership-communities>). Therefore, if the State is to create a policy, it should be based on the above COC definition.

Below are my additional comments and possible amendments that I feel will make Senate Bill 141 stronger and enforceable throughout the State.

They are as follows:

1. Create a Task Force to develop a “Statewide “Common Ownership Communities Commission” to include condominiums, homeowner associations (e.g., townhouses), cooperatives and all multifamily rental units (e.g. subsidized or not subsidized).

Why the Commission? What local government will enforce the creation of the policy in all COC’s and enforce it. I feel a “COC Commission” (e.g., Under the Maryland State Department of Housing and Community Development) would be able to oversee this policy in each local government and develop criteria on how the local government will implement the policy to COC and multifamily rentals communities.

2. Take baby steps in the coming years to work towards policies for a partial or total ban on smoking in all multifamily housing as a public health problem not only in COC but rental housing (e.g., Assistant living, Senior Communities, etc.) that is not subsidized.

Right now, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to the only full government agency that has already passed bills that created a policy that banned smoking in all subsidized multi-family housing based on public health research. Therefore, all forms of housing that is subsidized by HUD has a smoking policy that totally bans all forms of smoking and protects its renters and their families.

Thank you for the opportunity to comments on SB 141 and I look forward in a favorable vote on this Senate bill.

Sincerely,

Dawnn McCleary

Dawnn McCleary
Resident of Maryland

SB141.pdf

Uploaded by: Hillary Collins

Position: UNF

Vicki Caine, Chair
Steve Dunn, Member, Vice Chair
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Scott J. Silverman, Esq., Member
John Taylor, Member
Tricia A. Walsh, CISR, Member

Senator William C. Smith, Jr.
Senator Jeff Waldstreicher
Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: SB 0141 – Multifamily Dwellings -Smoking Policies
Hearing: January 30, 2024 Position: Oppose

Dear Chair Smith & Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Committee Members:

This letter is submitted on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Action Committee (“MD-LAC”) of the Community Associations Institute (“CAI”). CAI represents individuals and professionals who reside in or work with condominiums, homeowners associations and cooperatives throughout the State of Maryland.

MD-LAC is writing today to voice our opposition for SB 0141 which requires a multi-family dwelling (condominium or cooperative association) with four or more units to adopt a policy to set forth where smoking is both permitted and prohibited on the property of the multi-family dwelling. Such bill also requires a multi-family dwelling to establish a process to file a complaint against violators of such smoking policy and set forth any penalties or fines for violation of the policy.

While some condominium or cooperative associations may have a smoking policy in place, there are significant challenges to enforcing such a policy. The bill does not address concerns within the community association industry pertaining to enforcement of such policies. It is exceptionally difficult for a community association to penalize violators of a no-smoking policy because there is often insufficient proof of the source of the smoke. Smoking complaints are often unsubstantiated claims from a resident who believes smoke is emanating from a nearby unit or common area but has no definitive proof of such claim. By mandating a multi-family dwelling to adopt such a policy, the bill is inadvertently requiring a multi-family dwelling to enforce such a

Maryland Legislative Action Committee
Post Office Box 6636
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

policy when that is difficult, if not impossible, do to. This could lead to claims against the multi-family dwelling for failing to enforce such a policy. Therefore, multi-family dwellings should have autonomy to determine if such a policy is prudent for their community and whether enforcement is possible.

In addition, although the bill requires the multi-family dwelling to create a policy on any “lighted matter” or “lighted substance,” this bill does not address the recent legalization of marijuana in the state of Maryland. Multi-family dwellings must first have guidance from the state on whether recreational marijuana can be prohibited in multi-family dwellings before a policy on smoking can be required. Housing providers are already faced with Fair Housing accommodation requests with respect to medical or medicinal marijuana and should not now be forced to decide between a potential discrimination claim from the user of medical marijuana and enforcement of a mandatory no-smoking policy.

Accordingly, the MD-LAC respectfully request that the Committee does not give SB 0141 a favorable report.

We are available to answer any questions which you may have. Please feel free to contact any of the individuals listed: Lisa Harris Jones, CAI MD-LAC lobbyist, at 410-366-1500 or by email at lisa.jones@mdlobbyist.com; Hillary Collins, Esq., member by email at hcollins@reesbroome.com; or Vicki Caine, Chair 215-806-9143, or MDLacChair1@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Vicki Caine

Vicki Caine
Chair, CAI MD-LAC

Hillary Collins

Hillary Collins, Esq., CIRMS
Member, CAI MD-LAC

CAI is a national organization dedicated to fostering vibrant, competent, harmonious community associations for more than thirty years. Its members include community association volunteer leaders, professional managers, community management firms, and other professionals and companies that provide products and services to common interest associations. As part of its mission, CAI advocates for legislative and regulatory policies that support responsible governance and effective management. As part of this purpose state Legislative Action Committees represent CAI members before state legislatures and agencies on issues such as governance, assessments collection, insurance and construction defects.

Maryland Legislative Action Committee
Post Office Box 6636
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

SB 141 - HB 199 - Oppose PCRAM - Final.pdf

Uploaded by: Matthew Bohle

Position: UNF



Aphelion Cigar Lounge 410-721-1700
2510 Conway Road, Ste. 106, Gambrills 21054

Broadleaf Tobacco 410-315-8118
487 Ritchie Highway, #101, Severna Park 21146

Burnt Leaf 443-272-7206
487 Ritchie Highway, #101, Severna Park 21146

Cross Street Tobacco 410-752-9220
1103 Light Street, Baltimore 21230

Dan's Cigar Lounge 410-780-5959
8300-B Pulaski Highway, Rosedale 21237

Davidus Cigars. 301-865-1000
2134 Generals Highway, Annapolis 21401
1300 Bank Street, Baltimore 21231
1716 Liberty Road, Eldersburg 21784
9180 Baltimore National Pike, Ellicott City 21042 529
West South Street, Frederick 21701
25 Olney Sandy-Spring Road, Ashton 20861
10810 Reisterstown Road, Owings Mills 21117
11632 Rockville Pike, Rockville 20852
15922 Shady Grove Road, Gaithersburg 20832 8925
Fingerboard Road, Urbana 21704
23 East Main Street, Westminster 21157 25
Allegheny Avenue, Towson 21204

Easton Cigar & Smokeshop 410-770-5084
6 Glenwood Ave, Easton 21601

Etch-Art Awards 410-202-6616
931 Mount Hermon Road, Salisbury 21804

Fire & Smoke Cigar Parlor 443-970-6634
6827 Loch Raven Blvd., Towson 21286

Leonardtwn Cigar 240-309-4108
40955 Merchants Lane #14, Leonardtown 20650

Main Street Cigar Company 410-734-4494
2217 E. Churchville Road, Bel Air 21015

Mount Vernon Tobacco 410-728-5669
221 W. Read Street, Baltimore 21201

Mt. Washington Cigar Co. 410-377-4711
5909 Falls Road, Baltimore 21209

Oakleigh Beach Tobacco 410-388-8080
702 Wise Avenue, Dundalk 21222

Office Cigar Lounge at QG 410-685-7428
31 S Calvert St, Ste 300, Baltimore 21202

Quartermasters Cigars 410-898-2134
880 Northeast St, Frederick 21701

Senor Cigars 410-524-2069
11805 Coastal Highway, Ocean City 21842
3314 Coastal Highway, Ocean City 21842

Signature Cigars 301-424-8833
1331 Rockville Pike, Rockville 20852
4919 Cordell Avenue, Bethesda 20814

Spartan Cigar Lounge 443-350-9808
128 East Pulaski Highway, Elkton 21921

The Book Center 301-722-8345
15 North Centre Street, Cumberland 21502

The Humidour Cigar Shoppe 410-666-3212
2 Sherwood Road, Cockeysville 21030

TinderBox #398 301-374-9100
2754 Crain Highway, Waldorf 20601

Titan Cigar 410-721-2944
2634 Chapel Lake Drive, Gambrills 21056

Tobacco Leaf 410-799-2094
7351 Assateague Drive, Jessup 20794

W. Curtis Draper Tobacconist 301-907-7990
4916 Del Ray Avenue, Bethesda 20814

January 30, 2024

Opposition to SB 141/HB199

Chair and members of the Committee,

The Premium Cigar Retailers Association of Maryland represents over 35 adult only brick and mortar premium cigar specialty stores in the State. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this matter.

We write today in **Opposition to SB 141/HB 199**. The adult customers that buy legal tobacco products should be able to consume them responsibly and reasonably on their own property without interference. This is particularly true for condominium owners who purchased their property and have the ability to smoke within their unit. The ability to smoke within the unit may be the primary reason that owner purchased the unit. This legislation significantly changes the use of a property with little to no recourse for the owner.

The requirement to develop a smoking policy can be difficult to enforce as well. In many multi-unit buildings identifying the origination of smoke can be difficult. A known smoker in one unit can be blamed for smoke emanating from a smoking visitor from another unit or from elsewhere within or outside the building.

For these reasons we respectfully request for an unfavorable report.

Sincerely

Matthew Bohle, Obie Chinemere and Bill Castelli of RWL – 410-269-5066