

COMMUNIQUE



OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2006

Don't Be Fooled By the Smokescreen!

Vote NO on Issue 4 & YES on Issue 5

for a SmokeFreeOhio

Do you think the tobacco industry cares about your health? That's what they're claiming by funding a campaign for what they refer to as a "smoking ban." In reality, Issue 4, their pro-smoking constitutional amendment, would keep the clouds of smoke in restaurants and many other public places. Issue 5 for a SmokeFree Ohio is the real smoke-free public places law.

PLEASE DISPLAY THE ENCLOSED POSTER IN YOUR OFFICE

Be certain you know what you're voting for this November. DON'T BE FOOLED INTO VOTING FOR BOTH ISSUES. Vote against Issue 4, which is a constitutional amendment that would trump Issue 5.

As the U.S. Surgeon General said in a report released this June, the discussion is over: Secondhand smoke is a serious health hazard that causes heart disease, lung disease, and cancer in nonsmokers. Issue 5 protects children, seniors, and people with health problems from dangerous secondhand smoke by making all public places and workplaces in the state of Ohio smoke-free.

Issue 5 is based on the belief that all workers and citizens have the right to breathe smoke-free air in public places and at work. Everyone, including smokers, will still be able to enjoy all public places. Smokers will simply be asked to step outside to smoke so everyone's health is protected.

SmokeFreeOhio is a campaign of the American Cancer Society, American Lung Association, American Heart Association, and more than 500 other businesses and organizations. Issue 5 simply becomes a state law just like any law passed by the state legislature and does not amend the constitution. While most Ohioans support Issue 5, a handful of groups funded by

the tobacco industry oppose SmokeFreeOhio. This industry coalition chose a confusingly-similar name: Smoke Less Ohio.

Issue 4's primary funder is R.J. Reynolds Tobacco, the second largest cigarette manufacturer in the United States. They have promised million of dollars to fight Issue 5, while trying to trick Ohioans into believing that they are passing Issue 4 as a public health policy. Their purpose has always been to prevent SmokeFreeOhio from passing and to keep clouds of smoke in most public places. Issue 4 would keep smoking in restaurants, bowling alleys, bingo halls, and bars. Also, any place that declares itself off limits to children can allow smoking throughout the building.

Issue 4 would make it unconstitutional to protect the health of the more than 500,000 hospitality workers or their customers. The only way to change the Smoke Less Ohio law would be to pass another constitutional amendment, a long and expensive process. Issue 4 would overturn the strong smoke-free laws in 21 Ohio cities and prevent anyone from ever again passing a smoke-free law to protect their citizens.

Don't be fooled; don't vote for both! If Issue 4 passes, you lose your right to breathe smoke-free air. Vote **NO on 4** and **YES on 5**.

We hope you join us in support of a SmokeFreeOhio. Visit online at www.SmokeFreeOhio.org or call **888/ACS.OHIO**. Yard signs and literature cards that may be given to patients are available at The Academy of Medicine offices.

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Is It Time for a Fiscal Checkup?

We all know we should see our doctor once a year for a physical checkup. But when was the last time you had a fiscal checkup? Your financial health and security is every bit as important as your physical health, and you should schedule an annual checkup. How would you know if you need a fiscal checkup? Ask yourself four basic questions:

- Are your retirement assets adequately diversified?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Don't know
- Are your family's investment assets less than \$500,000?
 - Yes
 - No
- Have you had your estate planning documents reviewed since 2001?
 - Yes
 - No
- Have you made arrangements to fully protect your family's economic security?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Don't know

If you answered "NO" or "Don't know" to any of these questions, consider contacting your trusted financial advisor, accountant, attorney, or banker to sit down and review your personal financial situation, and your financial goals and objectives.

Just as it is necessary to have complete medical information in order to diagnose an illness, it is appropriate and necessary to understand your complete financial situation when conducting a "fiscal checkup." If you are interested in a "fiscal checkup," please contact: **Jane Marie Rahe** at (419) 259-7869, **Kerrigan Quicker** at (419) 885-6568, **Beth Meridieth** at (419) 885-6552 or **Erika Rizzo** at (419) 885-6554.



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Community Health Commission Notes

AIDS Update – HIV / AIDS remains primarily a disease among men having sex with men, IV drug users, and sex "professionals" except in Africa, where it remains a growing pandemic due to promiscuity. In Asia, the highest prevalence appears now in India. New anti-HIV regimens continue to be developed, but a vaccine seems far off.

School Health – A growing concern is the illegal use of alcoholic beverages among high school and college age students. Major beer and liquor manufacturers continue to advertise targeting young people, and many retailers, including Macy's and Meijers advertise clothing (especially T-shirts) glorifying beer and alcohol use.

Immunizations – The new Herpes Zoster vaccine (varicella live attenuated vaccine with 10 times the antigen of the child varicella vaccine) adds to the armamentarium for protection of the elderly. It is approved for people over 60. Along with Pneumovax, it offers greater protection against debilitating and potentially fatal disease. Interestingly, the conjugate pneumococcal vaccine for children has reduced the prevalence of virulent strains in communities resulting in fewer pneumococcal illnesses among the elderly.

Odds and Ends – Be aware of outbreaks of tick paralysis in Colorado, malaria in Florida, and, of course, E.coli O157:H7 from spinach traced to California. There has been a recall of Alimentum and Similac in ready-to-feed bottles because of a lack of vitamin C.

Healthy Living News

The Community Relations & Communications Commission is recruiting contributors to The Academy Corner in Healthy Living News. Articles for the monthly publication are approximately 300 words and can be sent to Dr. Ron Shapiro at rshapiro@edok.com. Maintaining the presence of The Academy Corner in Healthy Living News favorably keeps The Academy of Medicine in the public eye, as well as its members.

ACADEMY OF MEDICINE

Endorsed Services

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Fifth Third Private Banking

If you are too busy to manage your finances, get help from a Fifth Third Private Banker. Call Beth Meridieth at 419/885.6552, Kerrigan Quicker at 419/885.6568, Jane Marie Rahe at 419/259.7869 or Erika Rizzo at 419/885.6554. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender.

If you have or know of a product or service that you believe would help save Academy members time and money, please contact Lee Wealton at lwealton@aol.com.

www.toledomedicine.org

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NEWS COMMUNITY HEALTH ISSUES UPCOMING EVENTS MEMBERSHIP
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CLASSIFIED ADS

Space for Sale - 3480 sq. foot office, available 12/1/06, located at 4646 Nantucket Dr. New construction from April 2005. Equity position available. **Call Marti @ Michael Realty 419/255.3000.**

Space for Lease - 4126 Holland-Sylvania Rd. Toledo, Ohio at impressive new 61,000 sq.ft. medical office building. 14,000 sq.ft. available: build to suit with option to buy. **Call Dr. Stacy Bowen at 419.473.9210.**

Ohio Opportunities With Democratic Group. Columbus, Springfield & Hillsboro. Premier Health Care Services offers hospitalists great working environments and the opportunity for a stable future with an excellent package including pension, incentive income, family medical plan, expense account, paid malpractice; plus **ownership opportunity** after one year. A **Medical Director** opportunity is also available. **Contact Kim Avalos, 800/726.3627, ext. 3674, email kavalos@phcsday.com, fax 937/312.3719.**

105TH ACADEMY OF MEDICINE ANNUAL MEETING
Thursday, January 11, 2007



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