Restaurant Times & HealthNews

Do Smoking Policies Affect Your Business?

Don't Be Fooled by Big Tobacco. Smoke-Free Policies Do Not Harm Your Business. In Fact:

Smoke-free policies help protect food service workers and patrons from lung cancer, heart disease, and other ailments that may be caused by secondhand smoke.¹ Sound studies of smoke-free laws in California, Colorado, New York City, and Massachusetts demonstrate that overall sales tax revenues remain stable.²

You may have heard some claims that these laws adversely affect local economies. Who is behind the claims? The tobacco industry's own documents show that they have supplied this misinformation and used it to mobilize opposition.

The following guotes from Big Tobacco's internal documents concede that smoking restrictions do not affect any business but their own.

"Smoking

to have

profits by

"Total prohibition	
of smoking	
in the	
workplace	
strongly affects	
[tobacco]	
industry volume.	
Smokers facing	
these restrictions	
consume	
11%-15% less	
than average and	
quit at a rate	
that is 84%	
higher than	
average." 3	

"Financial impact of smoking bans restrictions will be have been tremendous estimated. [for the tobacco this year alone, industrv1 decreased three to five fewer cigarettes Philip Morris per day per smoker \$40 million." 5 will reduce annual

manufacturer

profits a

billion dollars

plus per year."4

"Economic arguments often used by the industry to scare off smoking-ban activity were no longer working, if indeed they ever did. These arguments simply had no credibility with the public. which isn't surprising when vou consider that our dire predictions in the past rarely came true." 6

¹ National Cancer Institute, 1999

² Journal of Public Health Management and Practice, 1999

From Philip Morris's Internal Documents

³ Heironimus, J., "Impact of workplace restrictions on consumption and incidence," Bates # 2045447770-2045447806, 1992.

⁴ "A Smokers' Alliance: draft," Bates # 2025771934 - 2025771937.

⁵ "Corporate Affairs 1994 Budget Presentation," Bates# 2045521070 - 2045521111, 1993.

⁶ David Laufer: "Draft 7/8/94 CAC Presentation #4," Bates # 2041183751 & 2041183790,1994. Portions reprinted by permission of Americans For Nonsmokers' Rights

Join the in crowd and get free publicity.

Add your business to the list of more than 5,000 smoke-free restaurants in Colorado. Call GASP at 303/444-9799 or visit our Web site www.GASPforair.org.

Restaurant Times & HealthNews 9

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