

CLEAN INDOOR AIR ACT

144.411 CITATION.

Sections [144.411](#) to [144.417](#) may be cited as the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act.

144.412 PUBLIC POLICY.

The purpose of sections [144.411](#) to [144.417](#) is to protect employees and the general public from the hazards of secondhand smoke by eliminating smoking in public places, places of employment, public transportation, and at public meetings.

144.413 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1.Scope.

As used in sections [144.411](#) to [144.416](#), the terms defined in this section have the meanings given them.

Subd. 1a.Indoor area.

"Indoor area" means all space between a floor and a ceiling that is bounded by walls, doorways, or windows, whether open or closed, covering more than 50 percent of the combined surface area of the vertical planes constituting the perimeter of the area. A wall includes any retractable divider, garage door, or other physical barrier, whether temporary or permanent. A 0.011 gauge window screen with an 18 by 16 mesh count is not a wall.

Subd. 1b.Place of employment.

"Place of employment" means any indoor area at which two or more individuals perform any type of a service for consideration of payment under any type of contractual relationship, including, but not limited to, an employment relationship with or for a private corporation, partnership, individual, or government agency. Place of employment includes any indoor area where two or more individuals gratuitously perform services for which individuals are ordinarily paid. A place of employment includes, but is not limited to, public conveyances, factories, warehouses, offices, retail stores, restaurants, bars, banquet facilities, theaters, food stores, banks, financial institutions, employee cafeterias, lounges, auditoriums, gymnasiums, restrooms, elevators, hallways, museums, libraries, bowling establishments, employee medical facilities, and rooms or areas containing photocopying equipment or other office equipment used in common. Vehicles used in whole or in part for work purposes are places of employment during hours of operation if more than one person is present. An area in which work is performed in a private residence is a place of employment during hours of operation if:

(1) the homeowner uses the area exclusively and regularly as a principal place of business and has one or more on-site employees; or

(2) the homeowner uses the area exclusively and regularly as a place to meet or deal with patients, clients, or customers in the normal course of the homeowner's trade or business.

Subd. 2. Public place.

"Public place" means any enclosed, indoor area used by the general public, including, but not limited to, restaurants; bars; any other food or liquor establishment; retail stores and other commercial establishments; educational facilities other than public schools, as defined in section [120A.05, subdivisions 9, 11, and 13](#); hospitals; nursing homes; auditoriums; arenas; meeting rooms; and common areas of rental apartment buildings.

Subd. 3. Public meeting.

"Public meeting" includes all meetings open to the public pursuant to section [13D.01](#).

Subd. 4. Smoking.

"Smoking" means inhaling or exhaling smoke from any lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, or any other lighted tobacco or plant product. Smoking also includes carrying a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, or any other lighted tobacco or plant product intended for inhalation.

Subd. 5. Public transportation.

"Public transportation" means public means of transportation, including light and commuter rail transit; buses; enclosed bus and transit stops; taxis, vans, limousines, and other for-hire vehicles other than those being operated by the lessee; and ticketing, boarding, and waiting areas in public transportation terminals.

144.414 PROHIBITIONS.

Subdivision 1. Public places, places of employment, public transportation, and public meetings.

Smoking shall not be permitted in and no person shall smoke in a public place, at a public meeting, in a place of employment, or in public transportation, except as provided in this section or section [144.4167](#).

Subd. 2. Day care premises.

(a) Smoking is prohibited in a day care center licensed under Minnesota Rules, parts 9503.0005 to 9503.0175, or in a family home or in a group family day care provider home licensed under Minnesota Rules, parts 9502.0300 to 9502.0445, during its hours of operation. The proprietor of a family home or group family day care provider must disclose to parents or guardians of children cared for on the premises if the proprietor permits smoking outside of its hours of operation. Disclosure must include posting on the premises a conspicuous written notice and orally informing parents or guardians.

(b) For purposes of this subdivision, the definition of smoking includes the use of electronic cigarettes, including the inhaling and exhaling of vapor from any electronic delivery device as defined in section 609.685, subdivision 1.

Subd. 3. Health care facilities and clinics.

(a) Smoking is prohibited in any area of a hospital, health care clinic, doctor's office, licensed residential facility for children, or other health care-related facility, except that a patient or resident in a nursing home, boarding care facility, or licensed residential facility

for adults may smoke in a designated separate, enclosed room maintained in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.

(b) Except as provided in section [246.0141](#), smoking by patients in a locked psychiatric unit may be allowed in a separated well-ventilated area in the unit under a policy established by the administrator of the program that allows the treating physician to approve smoking if, in the opinion of the treating physician, the benefits to be gained in obtaining patient cooperation with treatment outweigh the negative impacts of smoking.

(c) For purposes of this subdivision, the definition of smoking includes the use of electronic cigarettes, including the inhaling and exhaling of vapor from any electronic delivery device as defined in section 609.685, subdivision 1.

Subd. 4. Public transportation vehicles.

Smoking is prohibited in public transportation vehicles except that the driver of a public transportation vehicle may smoke when the vehicle is being used for personal use. For purposes of this subdivision, "personal use" means that the public transportation vehicle is being used by the driver for private purposes and no for-hire passengers are present. If a driver smokes under this subdivision, the driver must post a conspicuous sign inside the vehicle to inform passengers.

Subd. 5. Electronic cigarettes.

(a) The use of electronic cigarettes, including the inhaling or exhaling of vapor from any electronic delivery device, as defined in section 609.685, subdivision 1, is prohibited in the following locations:

- (1) any building owned or operated by the state, home rule charter or statutory city, county, township, school district, or other political subdivision;
- (2) any facility owned by Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the University of Minnesota;
- (3) any facility licensed by the commissioner of human services; or
- (4) any facility licensed by the commissioner of health, but only if the facility is also subject to federal licensing requirements.

(b) Nothing in this subdivision shall prohibit political subdivisions or businesses from adopting more stringent prohibitions on the use of electronic cigarettes or electronic delivery devices.

144.415 [Repealed, [2007 c 82 s 15](#)]

144.416 RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROPRIETORS.

(a) The proprietor or other person, firm, limited liability company, corporation, or other entity that owns, leases, manages, operates, or otherwise controls the use of a public place, public transportation, place of employment, or public meeting shall make reasonable efforts to prevent smoking in the public place, public transportation, place of employment, or public meeting by:

- (1) posting appropriate signs or by any other means which may be appropriate; and

(2) asking any person who smokes in an area where smoking is prohibited to refrain from smoking and, if the person does not refrain from smoking after being asked to do so, asking the person to leave. If the person refuses to leave, the proprietor, person, or entity in charge shall handle the situation consistent with lawful methods for handling other persons acting in a disorderly manner or as a trespasser.

(b) The proprietor or other person or entity in charge of a public place, public meeting, public transportation, or place of employment must not provide smoking equipment, including ashtrays or matches, in areas where smoking is prohibited. Nothing in this section prohibits the proprietor or other person or entity in charge from taking more stringent measures than those under sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#) to protect individuals from secondhand smoke. The proprietor or other person or entity in charge of a restaurant or bar may not serve an individual who is in violation of sections [144.411](#) to [144.417](#).

144.4165 TOBACCO PRODUCTS PROHIBITED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

No person shall at any time smoke, chew, or otherwise ingest tobacco or a tobacco product, or inhale or exhale vapor from an electronic delivery device as defined in section 609.685, subdivision 1, in a public school, as defined in section [120A.05, subdivisions 9, 11, and 13](#), and no person under the age of 18 shall possess any of these items. This prohibition extends to all facilities, whether owned, rented, or leased, and all vehicles that a school district owns, leases, rents, contracts for, or controls. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the lighting of tobacco by an adult as a part of a traditional Indian spiritual or cultural ceremony. For purposes of this section, an Indian is a person who is a member of an Indian tribe as defined in section [260.755 subdivision 12](#).

144.4167 PERMITTED SMOKING.

Subdivision 1. Scientific study participants.

Smoking by participants in peer reviewed scientific studies related to the health effects of smoking may be allowed in a separated room ventilated at a rate of 60 cubic feet per minute per person pursuant to a policy that is approved by the commissioner and is established by the administrator of the program to minimize exposure of nonsmokers to smoke.

Subd. 2. Traditional Native American ceremonies.

Sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#) do not prohibit smoking by a Native American as part of a traditional Native American spiritual or cultural ceremony. For purposes of this section, a Native American is a person who is a member of an Indian tribe as defined in section [260.755, subdivision 12](#).

Subd. 3. Private places.

Except as provided in section [144.414, subdivision 2](#), nothing in sections [144.411](#) to [144.417](#) prohibits smoking in:

(1) private homes, private residences, or private automobiles when they are not in use as a place of employment, as defined in section [144.413, subdivision 1b](#); or

(2) a hotel or motel sleeping room rented to one or more guests.

Subd. 4. Tobacco products shop.

Sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#) do not prohibit the lighting of tobacco in a tobacco products shop by a customer or potential customer for the specific purpose of sampling tobacco products. For the purposes of this subdivision, a tobacco products shop is a retail establishment with an entrance door opening directly to the outside that derives more than 90 percent of its gross revenue from the sale of loose tobacco, plants, or herbs and cigars, cigarettes, pipes, and other smoking devices for burning tobacco and related smoking accessories and in which the sale of other products is merely incidental. "Tobacco products shop" does not include a tobacco department or section of any individual business establishment with any type of liquor, food, or restaurant license.

Subd. 5. Heavy commercial vehicles.

Sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#) do not prohibit smoking in the cabs of motor vehicles registered under section [168.013, subdivision 1e](#), with a total gross weight of 26,001 pounds or greater.

Subd. 6. Farm vehicles and construction equipment.

Sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#) do not prohibit smoking in farm trucks, as defined in section [168.002, subdivision 8](#); implements of husbandry, as defined in section [168A.01, subdivision 8](#); and special mobile equipment, as defined in section [168.002, subdivision 31](#). This subdivision applies to farm trucks, implements of husbandry, and special mobile equipment, when being used for their intended purposes.

Subd. 7. Family farms.

Sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#) do not prohibit smoking in the house, garage, barns, and other buildings on a family farm that meet the following criteria: (1) the family farm is engaged in farming, as defined in section [500.24](#), subdivision 2, paragraph (a); (2) the family farm meets the definition of family farm under section [500.24, subdivision 2](#), paragraph (b), (c), (j), or (l); and (3) the family farm employs two or fewer persons who are not family members.

Subd. 8. Disabled veterans rest camp.

Sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#) do not prohibit smoking in the disabled veterans rest camp located in Washington County, established as of January 1, 2007.

Subd. 9. Theatrical productions.

Sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#) do not prohibit smoking by actors and actresses as part of a theatrical performance conducted in compliance with section [366.01](#). Notice of smoking in a performance shall be given to theater patrons in advance and shall be included in performance programs.

144.417 COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH, ENFORCEMENT, PENALTIES.

Subdivision 1. Rules.

The state commissioner of health shall adopt rules necessary and reasonable to implement the provisions of sections [144.411](#) to [144.417](#).

Subd. 2. Violations.

(a) Any proprietor, person, or entity that owns, leases, manages, operates, or otherwise controls the use of an area in which smoking is prohibited under sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#), and that knowingly fails to comply with sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#), is guilty of a petty misdemeanor.

(b) Any person who smokes in an area where smoking is prohibited or restricted under sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#) is guilty of a petty misdemeanor.

(c) A proprietor, person, or entity in charge of a public place, public meeting, place of employment, or public transportation must not retaliate or take adverse action against an employee or anyone else who, in good faith, reports a violation of sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#) to the proprietor or person in charge of the public place, public meeting, place of employment, or public transportation, or to the commissioner of health or other designee responsible for enforcing sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#).

(d) No person or employer shall discharge, refuse to hire, penalize, discriminate against, or in any manner retaliate against any employee, applicant for employment, or customer because the employee, applicant, or customer exercises any right to a smoke-free environment provided by sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#) or other law.

Subd. 3. Injunction.

The state commissioner of health, a board of health as defined in section [145A.02, subdivision 2](#), or any affected party may institute an action in any court with jurisdiction to enjoin repeated violations of sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#).

Subd. 4. Local government ordinances.

(a) Nothing in sections [144.414](#) to [144.417](#) prohibits a statutory or home rule charter city or county from enacting and enforcing more stringent measures to protect individuals from secondhand smoke.

(b) Except as provided in sections [144.411](#) to [144.417](#), smoking is permitted outside of restaurants, bars, and bingo halls unless limited or prohibited by restrictions adopted in accordance with paragraph (a).