



December 14, 2020

Council President Amy Brendmoen and members of the Saint Paul City Council  
St. Paul City Hall  
15 West Kellogg Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55102

The Association for Nonsmokers – Minnesota (ANSR) supports your efforts to protect condo homeowners from secondhand smoke exposure by requiring disclosure of a property’s smoking policy prior to unit sale. Second (and thirdhand) smoke are serious health hazards faced by all residents of multi-unit housing.

Secondhand smoke exposure contributes to over 40,000 deaths among nonsmoking adults and 400 deaths in infants each year. Secondhand smoke causes stroke, lung cancer, and coronary heart disease in adults. Children who are exposed to secondhand smoke are at increased risk for sudden infant death syndrome, acute respiratory infections, severe asthma, respiratory symptoms, and slowed lung growth. Unfortunately, residents of multi-unit housing cannot completely control the air that they breathe in their own home and research shows that up to 60% of air can be shared in multi-unit buildings.

All residents of multi-unit housing deserve to know, before moving in, if they (and their family) will be at risk of second and thirdhand smoke exposure. By adopting this ordinance, St. Paul will be protecting the health and safety of St. Paul multi-unit housing residents.

We strongly support your efforts and will provide any technical assistance you might require as this important ordinance move forward. Thank you for your work to protect the health of St. Paul homeowners and their families.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Weigum  
President, Association for Nonsmokers – Minnesota