

## ANCHORAGE B.R.E.A.T.H.E.

### Anchorage Bar & Restaurant Employees Advocating Together for a Healthy Environment

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Anchorage workers with first-hand experience working in smoke-filled bars and restaurants:

- *“Working in a smoking environment doesn’t give the worker a choice. We’re forced breathe secondhand smoke which affects my health and puts me at risk. I shouldn’t have to choose between my paycheck and lung cancer.”*
- *“I worked as a bartender 2 years at a cigar bar... I was sick with sinus infections a lot... I had to have surgery [at a cost] of \$16,000.”*
- *“Not one person in the world should ever die from secondhand smoke!”*
- *“I am exposed to large amounts [of smoke] everyday. I sometimes get headaches from it... I will blow my nose at the end of the day and there will be black mucous due to smoke inhalation.”*
- *“I have bartended for 20 + years – 15 in smoking bars. It is great not to stink when I get home. In addition, you can smell and taste the food. I love smokefree!”*
- *“Nobody should have to be forced to be in a smoking environment.”*
- *“I feel that smoking in bars and restaurants violates other’s rights to enjoy their food or beverage, as well as their safety.”*
- *“I am personally a smoker but enjoy working at smokefree places... [smoking puts] people who don’t smoke in bad conditions and it is easier to work without smoke surrounding you all day.”*
- *“I am a smoker and I like working in a smokefree restaurant.”*
- *“I don’t find it fair that employees should suffer the effects of cigarettes in their workplace... letting people smoke in public is letting them put everyone around them in danger.”*
- *“I made the choice not to smoke... I don’t want others’ smoke around me.”*
- *I don’t like working in a smoking environment for several reasons: first, you stink when you get home; second, I have trouble breathing; third, I know it’s bad for me.”*

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***No job description should include lung cancer or heart disease.***

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