Indiana has a deep commitment to preserving local community control. Today, the tobacco industry and other special interests want to take your local rights away. The tobacco industry has targeted Indiana in their nationwide strategy to stop effective local tobacco-related policies. In March 1996, the Indiana General Assembly passed S.E.A. 106 taking away local communities' rights to regulate the sale, display and distribution of tobacco products. Governor Evan Bayh vetoed S.E.A. 106; but an override of his veto is still possible as early as November 19, 1996 or during the 1997 legislative session.

If the tobacco industry taking away your local rights doesn't make you mad, it should.

That is why we have formed the Indiana Campaign for Tobacco-Free Communities. We intend to preserve local communities' rights to protect children and adults from the harmful effects of tobacco use.

WE NEED YOUR HELP and HERE'S HOW!

- **PETITIONS**—Gather petition signatures from your family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues. Share the petition with five more people who will collect signatures. The thousands of collected signatures will be presented to the Indiana General Assembly as evidence of community support for Governor Bayh's veto of S.E.A. 106.

- **RESOLUTIONS**—Introduce the model resolution to a city or county councilman or mayor. Resolutions passed through local government entities show support for Governor Bayh's veto of S.E.A. 106 and denounce preempton as a strategy.

- **LEGISLATIVE CALLS/LETTERS**—Call or write your state senator and representative. Ask them to uphold the veto of S.E.A. 106 and your community's right to enact tobacco-related ordinances.

- **LEGISLATIVE VISITS**—Set up a personal meeting with your state senator or representative. Share information about how this is important to your community. Ask for their commitment to preserve local control on tobacco-related issues.

- **BECOME MORE INVOLVED**—Fill out the enclosed form to become a member of our statewide grassroots network.

Please check out the enclosed materials to identify where your interests lie and how we can facilitate your involvement in this campaign. For more information contact: The Indiana Campaign for Tobacco-Free Communities, P.O. Box 34336, Indianapolis, IN 46234 (317) 291-7415.
Building Our Network

Name: ____________________________________________

Mailing Address: ______________________________________

County: _____________________________________________

Day Phone ___________________________ Evening Phone _____________

Fax Number ___________________________ Email Address _______________

I can help in the following ways:

___ Obtaining signatures for the petition drive
___ Sharing action alerts that I receive with five other people
___ Calling or writing/signing a letter to my State Senator or Representative
___ Making a visit to my State Senator or Representative
___ Writing or signing letters-to-the-editors
___ Contacting local city/county councils to introduce a resolution
___ Attending public/town meetings
___ OTHER ____________________________________________

Who is your Indiana State Representative?

Who is your Indiana State Senator?

Please list any senators or representatives that you personally know.

Please return this form to: The Indiana Campaign for Tobacco-Free Communities, P.O. Box 34336, Indianapolis, IN 46234 (317) 291-7415.
Indiana has a deep commitment to preserving local community control. The tobacco industry has targeted Indiana in their nationwide strategy to stop effective local tobacco-related policies since 1994. The Indiana Campaign for Tobacco-Free Communities is committed to preserving local communities’ rights to protect children and adults from the harmful effects of tobacco use.

WE NEED YOUR HELP and HERE’S HOW!

1. **Fight ANY** attempt to stop local cities and towns from passing local clean indoor air ordinances that would protect children and adults from secondhand smoke. We have already had an indication that a clean indoor air preemption bill has been prepared and that we could see it in the form of a bill or later as an amendment.

2. **Restore** local rights to Indiana’s cities and towns taken away last legislative session. Senate Bill 58, sponsored in 1998 by Senator Bev Gard, would give the right back to our communities to pass local ordinances that regulate the sale, display and distribution of tobacco products.

HERE IS HOW YOU CAN HELP NOW!

- **RESOLUTIONS**—Introduce the model resolution to a city or county councilman or mayor. Resolutions passed by local governments demonstrate that our cities and towns want to keep their local right to protect the health of their citizens.

- **LEGISLATIVE CALLS/LETTERS**—Call or write your state senator and representative. Ask them to protect your community’s right to enact tobacco-related ordinances.

- **LEGISLATIVE VISITS**—Set up a personal meeting with your state senator or representative. Share information about how this is important to your community. Ask for their commitment to preserve local control on tobacco-related issues.

- **MEDIA**—Let your local newspapers, radio stations and TV stations know how important local control is to our form of government. Use the enclosed information to write a letter to the editor or to encourage local reporters to cover this issue during the ‘98 General Assembly.

- **GET OTHERS INVOLVED**—Share this information with five more people within your organization, neighborhood, school and community.

For more information contact: The Indiana Campaign for Tobacco-Free Communities, P.O. Box 34336, Indianapolis, IN 46234  (317) 291-7415. (Email: KSSneegas@aol.com)
PREEMPTION... A Barrier to Progress

What is Preemption?

For the past four legislative sessions, the tobacco industry has targeted Indiana in their nationwide campaign to dismantle local tobacco control efforts at the local level. The strategy is fairly simple. The tobacco industry promotes very weak statewide legislation that includes clauses in the bill that eliminate the power of local government to regulate tobacco. This tactic is referred to as “preemption” of local control. Preemption comes in a variety of packages, almost always disguised in “good-guy” wrapping. As of the 1997 legislative session, Indiana was “preempted” from passing laws at the local level that would regulate the sale, display, and regulation of tobacco products.

The tobacco industry clearly recognizes preemption as their best tactic against tobacco control. We know this both through their behavior and through recently leaked internal documents. Over the last several years the public opinion of the tobacco industry has plummeted. For that reason, the tobacco companies have done their state legislative work through business groups like tobacco retailers, grocers, and convenience store owners.

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Victor Crawford, a former tobacco lobbyist, explained the tobacco industry’s interest in taking away local control very clearly:

“We (tobacco lobbyists) could never win at the local level. So the Tobacco Institute and tobacco companies’ first priority has always been to preempt the field, preferably to put it all on the federal, but if they can’t do that, at least on the state level, because the health advocates can’t compete with me on a state level.”

**Journal of the American Medical Association, July 19, 1995**
Indiana Campaign
for Tobacco-Free Communities

P.O. Box 34336 Indianapolis, IN 46234 (317) 291-7415 (Phone/Fax)

Why Local Control Is Vital for Indiana’s Cities, Towns and Counties

ENACTMENT: When local campaigns are waged to pass a local tobacco control ordinance, the community’s awareness is increased dramatically. Debate over proposed ordinances commands a great deal of media attention. Town hall meetings and public hearings on the issue engage the community in discussions of how to protect the health of adults and children. Added all together, it is a great community awareness and education program.

COMPLIANCE: Compliance with local laws is higher due to greater public knowledge about the law. When a community has gone through the process of debating and adopting an ordinance customized to meet local concerns, citizens are much more likely to both be aware of the law and comply with it.

ENFORCEMENT: Since local laws have a higher rate of compliance, they are easier to enforce. Local laws are also easier to enforce because they are enforced by a local agency. The local agency is far more inclined to energetically enforce a local ordinance rather than a state law because they know their community adopted the local law. There is a higher degree of ownership that doesn’t exist with a state law.

PUBLIC SUPPORT: Changing society attitudes isn’t easy. It takes a combined, simultaneous approach of education and legislation. For the most part, local ordinances don’t pass unless and until a majority of the community supports them. That kind of needed support happens more frequently at the local level than at the state level.

TOBACCO INDUSTRY OPPOSITION: The tobacco industry is far more powerful at the state level than at the local level, and far more dangerous. The most damage they can cause at the local level is to prevent a good law from passing. At the state level, their national strategy has been to weaken state laws and include a preemption clause, which prohibits cities and counties from enacting, and enforcing their own local ordinances.

(Source: Americans for Nonsmokers Rights)