

To NTPC Members-

On April 5<sup>th</sup>, the Clark County Commission reached a decision regarding Dotty's casinos and the definition of taverns. This is important to supporters of the Nevada Clean Indoor Air Act (NCIAA) because changing how taverns operate will determine whether they can allow smoking. In deciding what constitutes a bar or tavern, Clark County Commissioners blurred the line as to what differentiates a restaurant from a bar or tavern.

At that hearing, Commissioner Tom Collins publicly stated that he has been working with lobbyists and legislators to repeal the NCIAA in order to again allow smoking under the new definition of taverns. In fact, Commissioner Collins went so far as to say that there was already a "gentleman's agreement" in place among various stakeholders (but not us) and legislators to repeal the NCIAA this session.

This is outrageous on many levels, not the least of which is the fact this law was approved by a vote of the people, and they could potentially be shut out of the process. The repeal of any provision of the NCIAA by the Legislature would disregard the will of every person who supports this law.

A bill has not yet been introduced this session that would repeal all or parts of the NCIAA, but as Commissioner Collins stated publicly, it is in the works. We must let legislators know that we oppose any attempt to weaken or eliminate the Act under any circumstances, but especially when it has been suggested by certain Clark County Commissioners that a deal "is already done."

Please contact your representatives in the Assembly and Senate to let them know this is not how legislation should be made and that you adamantly oppose any attempt by the Nevada Legislature to weaken or repeal the NCIAA. To find the legislators that represent your district, please visit this link and type in your address:

<http://mapserve.leg.state.nv.us/website/lcb/viewer.htm>.

Your legislators will then be listed and you can link directly to their contact information.

When talking to or emailing your legislators, above all else, be respectful of them, their position and the commitment they've made to serve our state. Theirs is not an easy job. But do let them know:

- 1) Crafting and passing legislation behind closed doors without public input is not what our legislative process is about. To enact legislation after comments were made that "a deal is already done" would only confirm people's worst suspicions.
- 2) The NCIAA was passed by a majority of Nevada voters in 2006. Don't overturn the will of the people. As voters, we'll be watching this carefully.

3) Voters knew what they were voting for in 2006 and know that they like the law even more now. In February 2011, the American Lung Association conducted a poll that found there is now more public support for the NCIAA than when the law passed, with 83% of voters saying they support the Act.

We strongly encourage you to take action, as many voices are needed to defend our right to breathe clean air from powerful interests that see it as a danger to their profits. NTPC will continue to provide more information to you as we work to prevent any repeal of the NCIAA and learn more about what may be coming our way. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at any time.