



214 Main Street, Suite 1B
Lemont, IL 60439

phone: 630.243.7111

fax: 630.243.7287

email: dave@fakoassociates.com

web: www.fakoassociates.com

February 2, 2006

To: Kathy Drea
From: Dave Fako
Re: Smoke Free Poll Summaries

Since January 2002, Fako & Associates has conducted eight public opinion surveys in Illinois regarding smoke free issues. These studies include two statewide poll conducted in January 2002 and February 2005 and surveys in Arlington Heights (Sept. '02), Skokie (Jan. '03), Champaign/Urbana (Nov. '04) Oak Park (Nov. '04), Springfield (Aug. '05), and Chicago (Aug. '05).

All surveys evaluated opinions of second hand smoke and smoke free laws. Each survey consistently showed the public philosophically supports smoke free policies. The surveys also showed residents feel second hand smoke is a serious health threat and they didn't feel protected enough from the harmful effects of second hand smoke. Strong support for smoke free laws was found in the various surveys that tested these issues. The pro-smoke free sentiment remained consistent despite with differences in the survey structure and where and when the survey was conducted.

The following are some highlights of the various surveys conducted by Fako & Associates since 2002.

Opinions of the Health Hazard of Second Hand Smoke

- Residents of the state and in every community feel second hand smoke is a serious health hazard.
 - Arlington Heights = 90% serious health hazard
 - Skokie = 89% serious health hazard
 - Champaign Urbana = 92% serious health hazard
 - Oak Park = 92% serious health hazard
 - Springfield = 72% serious health hazard
 - Statewide '02 = 68% serious health hazard
 - Statewide '05 = 91% serious health hazard¹

¹ Question wording in the Illinois statewide survey was different than in the surveys of the various communities.

Opinions of Protection from Second Hand Smoke

- Residents do not feel separate non-smoking sections provide enough protection from second hand smoke.
 - Arlington Heights = 69% not enough protection
 - Skokie = 63% not enough protection
 - Champaign/Urbana = 61% not enough protection
 - Oak Park = 61% not enough protection
 - Springfield = 62% not enough protection
 - Statewide '05 = 56% not enough protection

Opinions of Regulating or Prohibiting Smoking in Public Places

- Residents philosophically support placing restriction on where people can smoke in public places or completely banning smoking in all public places.
 - Arlington Heights = 79%
 - Skokie = 77%
 - Champaign/Urbana = 76%
 - Oak Park = 80%
 - Springfield = 66%

Opinions of Dining at Smoke Free Establishments

- Residents are more likely to dine out to eat at smoke free restaurants
 - Arlington Heights = 51% more likely
 - Skokie = 50% more likely
 - Champaign/Urbana = 51% more likely
 - Oak Park = 54% more likely

Opinions of Smoke Free Laws

- Over 75% of voters agree that local communities should be able to pass laws that make all public places smoke free. (IL Statewide 01/02)
- 77% support giving local communities the authority to enact laws regulating smoking in workplaces, restaurants and other public places even if those laws are more protective than state laws. (IL Statewide 01/02)
- 66% support an ordinance to make all indoor public place smoke free. (Oak Park 11/04)
- 66% support a state law that prohibits smoking in all indoor workplaces, restaurants and other public places in Illinois. (IL Statewide 02/05)
- 72% support giving local communities the authority to enact laws regulating smoking in workplaces, restaurants and other public places even if those laws are more protective than state laws. (IL Statewide 02/05)