

A Case Study in Policy Development

Smoke-free workplace policies in casinos

Team BOOT-IT (MARPHLI Year 16 Team)

A. **Title:** Smoke-free workplace policies in casinos

B. **Functional Area of Focus:** Policy Development

C. **Major Subjects Involved:**

1. Second-hand smoke
2. Indoor air ordinances
3. Casinos

Ancillary Subjects:

1. Employee/Employers relations
2. Workplace regulations/policies

D. **Setting of the Case:**

1. **Facility** – Pluto Casino

2. **Relevant Geographical and Demographic Information** – Pluto Casino is located in Blueberry County. Blueberry County is a rural area with a population of 19,919. The median age of county residents is upper 30s to mid 40s and the population is 97% White. Blueberry County residents have a 45 % high school graduation rate, but less than 5% with a Bachelor's degree. The median household income is 41,000 to 48,000. In 2003, the tobacco use rate for Blueberry County was 32 % and in 2006 the regional tobacco use rate was 27%.

3. **Agencies/People Involved** -

- Pluto Casino – casino for which policy would be implemented; provides health care plans to full time employees.
- Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Agency – provide smoking cessation programs for casino workers; can connect casino to local tobacco coalition; provide assistance by working towards a state-wide or county smoking ordinance; provide funding.
- Blueberry County Health Department – provide smoking cessation programs; education materials; contribute to state-wide or county ordinance.
- Hospital of Blueberry County – provide smoking cessation programs; education materials; contribute to state-wide or county ordinance.
- Indiana Gaming Commission – provide regulation to casinos
- Environmental Group – air quality testing services
- County Commissioner – responsible for county smoking ordinances.
- Illinois Gaming Board – mentor Pluto Casino in steps to implement smoke-free policy
- Smokefree Illinois – assist with writing of policy; mentor

E. Authors:

1. Desiree Goetze, MPH, Indiana Prevention Resource Center, 501 N. Morton St., Ste 110, Bloomington, IN 47404, 812.855.1237, dgoetze@indiana.edu.
2. Aaron Jones, MPH, Indiana Prevention Resource Center, 501 N. Morton St., Ste 110, Bloomington, IN 47404, 812.855.1237, aadjones@indiana.edu.
3. Jennifer Kelley, MPH, Indiana Prevention Resource Center, 501 N. Morton St., Ste 110, Bloomington, IN 47404, 812.855.1237, jenkell@indiana.edu.
4. Mary A. Lay, MPH, Indiana Prevention Resource Center, 501 N. Morton St., Ste 110, Bloomington, IN 47404, 812.855.1237, maholtsc@indiana.edu
5. Katherine Wood, MPH(c), Indiana Prevention Resource Center, 501 N. Morton St., Ste 110, Bloomington, IN 47404, 812.855.1237, wood2@indiana.edu.
6. Team Mentor: Jon Macy

BACKGROUND

While surrounding areas have been successful in passing city and county-wide smoke free-air laws, Blueberry County is still without such a law. This includes the riverboat casino that began operating in 2005. Blueberry County is located in South Central Indiana. It has a population of 19,659. The 2006 smoking rate for Indiana was 24%, and the smoking rate for the southwest region of the state, which includes Blueberry County, was 26%. In comparison, the national smoking prevalence was 20%. Across the U.S., very few casinos are smoke-free. Even counties in the state of Indiana that have a smoke-free ordinance exclude or exempt casinos. Even though the hospital and Town Hall went smoke-free, the schools and most businesses have no tobacco-free policy. If Blueberry County was able to support the casino in going smoke-free on its own, there would be a precedent established for other counties attempting to pass smoke-free air ordinances which may have otherwise exempted casinos.

HEALTH EFFECTS OF SECONDHAND SMOKE

The effects of secondhand smoke can be life changing and life threatening. This is especially true for casino workers in facilities without smoke-free policies. Casino workers who are exposed to secondhand smoke are being put at risk for adverse health outcomes. Secondhand smoke has been found to cause cancer, respiratory disease, and is a major risk factor for cardiovascular disease (US Environmental Protection Agency, 1992).

Many scientific studies have shown that casino workers are being exposed to unnecessary health risks while performing their jobs. Casino workers in a “well-ventilated” casino had cotinine (metabolized nicotine) levels 300-600% higher than workers in other smoking workplaces during a work shift (Trout, Decker, Mueller, Bernert, & Pirkle, 1998). In addition, nonsmokers in a smoke-filled casino had a 456% increase in their cotinine levels, and a 112% increase in their carcinogen NNAL levels after just four hours of exposure (Anderson et al., 2003). These were the results for patrons of the casino who were nonsmokers. They all made the choice to spend their time in that environment; the casino workers are there because their job requires it. In a study of air nicotine levels in casinos, they were found to be 2.4 times higher than in offices and 1.5 times higher than in restaurants. Based on these levels it is estimated that 1 in every 1,000 workers in environments such as betting establishments will die of lung cancer attributable to their workplace secondhand smoke exposure (Siegel & Skeer, 2003).

Simply put, the air in casinos where smoking occurs is not safe. In a study of a Delaware casino, before a smoke-free air policy went into place, the air had 50 times more cancer-causing particles than the air from highways and city streets during rush hour traffic. Following the implementation of the smoke-free air policy these cancer-causing

particles almost completely disappeared (Repace, 2004). In 2006, the U.S. Surgeon General issued a report concluding that 100% smoke-free workplace policies are the only effective way to eliminate secondhand smoke exposure in the workplace. The report went on to state that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke, and ventilation cannot protect workers or patrons from exposure (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2006).

COALITION BUILDING

Frustrated by the lack of action by state and county government, the Blueberry County Tobacco Coalition partnered with a group of concerned casino workers from Pluto Casino to build a broad base of support for a smoke-free casino policy.

The Blueberry County Tobacco Coalition currently has representatives from the health department, local hospital, cancer society, police department, schools, Future Farmers of America, 4-H, and a few local restaurants. Since partnering with the Pluto Casino workers, the coalition has been working to bring on board members of the Chamber of Commerce, Pluto Casino management, City and County Officials, and other restaurant and bar staff.

The coalition held information meetings at the casino for workers and management. At these sessions the coalition recruited several workers and a few managers. The group began meeting to devise an action plan and assign roles. The coalition continued holding informational meetings at the casino and began circulating a petition. With the assistance of the casino the coalition also began disseminating educational information, hanging posters, and posting community-based cessation class information for workers interested in quitting.

LOBBYING ON THE STATE LEVEL

The primary leadership at the state level to support smoke-free casinos has come from the Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Agency (ITPC). They have taken an approach that all workplaces should be smoke-free no matter what the business—including casinos. The state level focus has been on providing resources and support to local coalitions to develop grassroots support that will assist with the development of smoke-free workplace policies in all workplaces, including bars and casinos.

In January 2008, ITPC hosted a conference call for local tobacco coalition members. The call was targeted at coalitions in counties that have casinos or race tracks, which will have slots by the summer of 2008. The discussion centered on a bill that died during the

current state legislative session that would have required workplaces, including casinos and bars, to go smoke-free.

The focus of the discussion was how coalitions could work with casino workers at the local level to be interested and engaged in the process of establishing smoke-free workplaces. The idea being if casino workers back smoke-free workplaces there will be less opposition from the casinos, and in addition, it will be more difficult for bars to oppose the legislation.

One approach discussed was getting casino workers on board with local smoke-free efforts-to help them advocate that their workplace should be free of smoke the same as someone in a store or office. Often one barrier is that the public feels if you go to a casino (or a bar) you get what you deserve. Why do I care if it has smoke? You are gambling or drinking so you deserve it. There is not a view that it is where someone works, but only a place for recreation (ITPC, conference call, January 24, 2008).

ITPC has also started a project with Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights to build relationships with casino workers to motivate them to bring about change in their workplace. Outreach and training programs are being implemented across the state to educate the casino workers and provide them with the support and knowledge they need to influence their employers.

COUNTY LEVEL INVOLVEMENT

The Blueberry County Commissioners has listened to proposals for a comprehensive clean air ordinance for the county, but has not reached consensus on the matter. Commissioners in favor of the clean air ordinance consider the casino implementing its own smoke-free policy to be a positive step in the right direction. The casino smoke-free policy would give commissioners backing when debating with other local businesses on adopting a county-wide ordinance. Bars in Blueberry County may be more willing to accept a county clean air ordinance if the casino is already abiding by one. At this point, without full support from the county commissioners, Blueberry County will not have a comprehensive clean air ordinance for all work places.

POLICY CONTROVERSIES

In developing a workplace smoke-free policy for a casino, the tobacco coalition coordinator along with the Blueberry County Health Department Administrator acted as liaisons between the employees of the casino that had organized to create a smoke-free workplace and the supervisors and owners of the casino.

The main objective was to negotiate a consensus between the two groups that would establish a balanced and effective policy. In order to develop this policy the following issues needed to be considered:

- 1) Who will benefit from the policy?
- 2) How will personal rights be addressed?
- 3) What effect will this policy have on casino revenue?
- 4) What alternatives to a total ban are available?
- 5) How would the policy be impacted by future state or county ordinances?
- 6) What are the health care concerns?

Blueberry County has seen many changes over the last few years with the addition of the casino. This riverboat casino has the unique opportunity to not only be a leader in the state for creating a smoke-free casino, but also a model for the entire country. By working together Blueberry County may help in improving the health of millions of people across the country.

Blueberry County already has smoke-free government buildings, hospitals, and even restaurants. Casino employees should have the same right to work in a safe and smoke-free environment as employees in other industries.

The Tobacco Coalition Coordinator and the Blueberry County Health Department Administrator met with various employee groups of the casino to find out the attitudes of the workers. They also met with the casino owners and managers to get their opinions. They looked into the existing policies at the casino. The Health Administrator and Tobacco Coordinator assisted in arranging for a meeting with casino leaders and employees to discuss a smoke-free policy. Health and economic data were presented to the casino managers, and the employees stated the type of policy they would prefer, which was a completely smoke-free indoor environment. The Health Administrator and Tobacco Coalition Coordinator supported this proposal as did the 20 other organizations that are members of the coalition.

OPPONENTS OF THE POLICY

Opposition to the establishment of smoke-free air policies in casino came from within the casino industry. The management of the Pluto Casino pointed to reports on how the smoke-free air law in Illinois has impacted the Illinois Gaming Industry and how a smoking ban would negatively impact their casino. As a primary argument against passing a policy, opponents cited a report from the Illinois Gaming Commission which stated,

“The hardest hit with revenue decline was Harrah's Metropolis Casino in Metropolis, near the Kentucky border. The casino reported an approximately 23 percent drop in revenue since

December. On Thursday the casino announced its plans to lay off 30 employees. Officials there said the smoking ban is the sole culprit.”

as a primary argument for not banning smoke (*Smoke ban driving down*, 2008). Casino management argued that the job growth seen in Blueberry County would be reduced if the casino was forced to go smoke-free; nearly 1,000 new jobs were added in Blueberry County between 2005 and 2006—when the casino opened for business. Wages saw an increase of 16.5% (Swartz & Dufrene, 2007). Additionally, local bars and restaurants voiced opposition to smoke-free air policies.

PROPOSERS OF THE POLICY

The following issues were raised by the proponents of the casino smoke-free air policy.

Personal Rights

Courts have held that protection of non smokers against the hazards of secondhand smoke takes precedence over smokers desire to light up wherever they choose (Sweda, 1997). The failure to provide smoke-free workplaces put employee’s lives at risk from exposure to the deadly toxins in secondhand smoke. People who work in enclosed workplaces have no choice but to breathe in other people’s smoke. Other health and safety measures such as requiring hard hats or safety goggles are not considered an infringement on personal rights even though they restrict the actions of employees. The same principle should apply to eliminating tobacco smoke exposure (Carlson, 1997 & American Cancer Society, Inc. 2006).

Health Effects

The World Health Organization and many other credible scientific institutions have found secondhand smoke to be harmful, disease causing, and fatal. Workers exposed to second hand smoke on the job are 34% more likely to get lung cancer than those not exposed. Casino workers are at a greater risk for lung and heart disease. Smoke filled casinos have up to 50 times more cancer causing particles in the air than highways and city streets at rush hour. In fact, second hand smoke in gambling venues can be 2.4 to 18.5 times higher than in offices (Carlson, 1997 & American Cancer Society, Inc. 2006).

Economic Gain

Published research does not indicate that smoke-free laws in casinos lead to a decline in business. In Delaware, a study compared the revenue at gaming venues before and after the smoke-free law and found that going smoke-free did not adversely affect revenue.

In Massachusetts, an analysis of their municipal smoke-free laws shows no association with any decline in bingo and charitable gaming revenue. Consumer services indicate that whether or not a casino is smoke-free is unlikely to impact patronage decisions (Carlson, 1997 & American Cancer Society, Inc. 2006).

In fact, there can be significant economic gain from establishing a smoke-free policy. Estimated costs associated with the effects of secondhand smoke on non-smoking employees range as high as \$490 per smoker per year. Maintenance and cleaning costs go down 60% when smoke, matches, and cigarette butts are eliminated in the workplace.

Employees who smoke utilize more health care (6 additional visits per year) and have more sick days (6.5 per year) than non smokers. Establishing a smoke – free work place policy is also, virtually free to the employer to implement (Carlson, 1997 & American Cancer Society, Inc. 2006).

Worker Productivity & Safety

Having a smoke-free workplace demonstrates that the employer cares about the health and well-being of its employees. Employees who already suffer from adverse health effects due to tobacco exposure will not be exposed to it at work. More than 80% of smokers want to quit, and workplace restrictions can provide another reason to stop (Carlson, 1997 & American Cancer Society, Inc. 2006).

Insurance and Litigation

By instituting a smoke-free workplace policy, employers may be able to negotiate lower health insurance rates. Moreover, if the state or community adopts a smoke-free policy, the workplace will already be in compliance. Even absent of a smoke-free law, casino employees may still take legal action against their employer if they are injured by exposure to secondhand smoke. Some employees are now initiating class action lawsuits. A number of courts have decided in favor of employees who were exposed to secondhand smoke in the workplace (Carlson, 1997 & American Cancer Society, Inc. 2006).

CONSENSUS BUILDING: DRAFTING A BALANCED POLICY

The Blueberry County Tobacco Coalition, with the casino workers represented, met to discuss the drafting of a smoke-free casino policy. The coalition members wanted options, facts, and documentation of the health effects on casino workers. The hospital representative wanted the draft policy to include that the protection of non smokers against the hazards of secondhand smoke takes precedence over smoker’s desire to light up wherever they choose. Another member of the coalition felt that the group

needed to be more sensitive to the feelings of smokers. The Chamber of Commerce expressed concerns about the patrons of the casino. Many coalition members wanted nicotine replacement therapy (NRT) options for casino employees who use tobacco but may be interested in quitting as a result of the policy going into effect.

While everyone involved with the coalition supported a smoke-free policy, varying levels of regulation were debated. The Pluto Casino management and some workers were interested in pursuing smoking in designated break rooms. The Chamber of Commerce representative also inquired about ventilation systems, as opposed to a smoke-free policy. In the end, the coalition leader felt the research and facts did not support the use of a ventilation system or designated smoking areas. Therefore, the coalition voted to draft a 100% smoke-free workplace policy.

After the policy was drafted, the casino workers and management involved with the coalition presented the draft policy at their monthly all-staff meeting. The top-level casino management agreed to meet and review the smoke-free workplace policy. This policy included items such as: (1) the casino would provide a smoke-free environment for all employees and patrons; (2) the policy covers the smoking of any tobacco product and the use of smokeless or “spit” tobacco and applies to both employees and non-employee visitors of Pluto Casino; (3) a designated smoking area 50 feet from the casino entrance would be established; and (4) support for cessation (i.e. classes, nicotine replacement therapy) would be provided.

This smoke-free workplace policy is an example of collaborative policy development because it brought together the Pluto Casino, the Blueberry Tobacco Coalition, and local government agencies. Assurance or enforcement of the policy would be provided by the casino, with support from the Blueberry County Tobacco Coalition. The coalition has agreed to provide education, cessation, and resources to support the success of the smoke-free workplace policy.

The workplace policy has a good chance of being implemented by Pluto Casino because there is support from management and workers. This type of casino implemented policy passed where a county-wide or state-wide smoking ordinance may not have, because of the overall support at the casino level.

CONCLUSION

After failed attempts to pass a state-wide or county-wide smoke-free air law, the casino workers, in collaboration with the tobacco coalition, came together to create a smoke-free workplace policy for Pluto Casino. While some casino managers and the Chamber of Commerce representatives felt that there should have been a compromise including designated smoking areas, the tobacco coalition coordinator said that “a 100% smoke-free workplace policy is the best way to protect casino employees and patrons.” The

Blueberry County Tobacco Coalition is going to take the smoke-free workplace policy to the Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Agency (ITPC) Executive Director. Pluto Casino is one of eleven riverboats in the state, and its success in passing a smoke-free workplace policy could be instrumental in assisting other casinos in areas without a county-wide smoke-free air law in constructing their own policy. Furthermore, this policy is an important step forward toward passing a county-wide smoke-free air law in Blueberry County.

REFERENCES

- American Cancer Society, Inc. (2006). *Tobacco control strategy planning guide # 3. Enacting strong smoke-free laws: The advocate's guide to legislative strategies*. (Publication No. 007339). American Cancer Society / UICC.
- Anderson, K., Kliris, J., Murphy, L., Carmella, S., Han, S., Link, C., Bliss, R., Puumala, S., & Hecht, S. (2003). Metabolites of tobacco specific lung carcinogen in nonsmoking casino patrons. *Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers & Prevention*, *12*, 1544-1546.
- Carlson, R. (1997). *Smoke-free air everywhere*. New Jersey Group Against Smoking Pollution (GASP).
- Repace, J. (2004). Respirable particles and carcinogens in the air of Delaware hospitality venues before and after a smoking Ban. *Journal of Occupational & Environmental Medicine*. *46*(9), 887-905.
- Siegel M. & Skeer M. (2003). Exposure to secondhand smoke and excess lung cancer mortality risk among workers in the "5 B's": bars, bowling alleys, billiard halls, betting establishments, and bingo parlours. *Tobacco Control*, *12*, 333-338.
- Smoke ban driving down Illinois casino revenue? (2008, February 10). *Lake County News-Sun*. Retrieved on February 12, 2008 from http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/newssun/business/786182,W10_casinosmoking_s1.article
- Swartz, B. & Dufrene, U. (2007, November). Casino Impact on Orange County's Labor Market-Early Evidence. *incontext*, *12*, 4-6. Retrieved on February 12, 2008 from <http://www.incontext.indiana.edu/2007/november/2.html>
- Sweda, E. (1997) *Summary of legal cases regarding smoking in the workplace and other Places*. Boston, MA: Tobacco Control Resource Center, Inc.
- Trout, D., Decker, J., Mueller, C., Bernert, J., & Pirkle, J. (1998). Exposure of casino employees to environmental tobacco smoke. *Journal of Occupational & Environmental Medicine*. *40*(3), 270-276.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2006). *The health consequences of involuntary exposure to tobacco smoke: A report of the Surgeon General-executive summary*. (AHCPR Publication No. 017 024-01685-3). Rockville, MD: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Coordinating Center for Health Promotion, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health

Promotion, & Office on Smoking and Health.

US Environmental Protection Agency. (1992). *Respiratory health effects of passive smoking: lung cancer and other disorders*. (Publication No. EPA/600/6-90/006F). Washington, DC: EPA

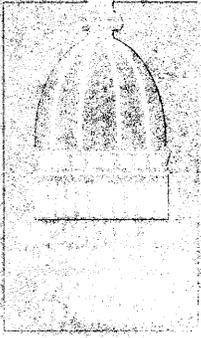
Teacher and Trainer's Guide

1. What barriers to effective public health leadership can be identified in this case?
2. Does political pressure present a barrier or an opportunity?
3. What effect do fiscal pressures have on the resolution of the public health issue?
4. If casino workers hadn't been involved with the Blueberry County Tobacco coalition in drafting the smoke-free workplace policy, would the Pluto Casino management taken it under advisement?
5. Is workplace policy or legislation usually a better way of establishing smoke-free environments?
6. Discuss all factors that could influence a casino's workplace smoking policy. In what ways do you think the potential of loss of gaming revenue influences the decision-making process? What role does the tobacco industry play?

Learning Tools:

- If the geographical location of the case were altered, what effect would that have on the potential for exhibiting leadership qualities (e.g., another state, smoke-free city or county)?
- If the affected workplace was altered, what impact would that have on the potential for exhibiting leadership qualities (e.g., school system, hospital, corporate setting)?

APPENDICES



F Y I

A service of
New Jersey GASP
Group Against Smoking Pollution
105 Mountain Avenue
Summit, NJ 07901
908 273-9368
Fax 908 273-9222
www.NJGASP.org
info@NJGASP.org

SEATTLE POST-INTELLIGENCER

http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/national/1501ap_casino_smoke.html

Monday, May 15, 2006 · Last updated 5:23 p.m. PT

Nev. study links casino smoke, DNA damage

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RENO, Nev. -- Five years of research led by a University of Nevada, Reno department head in Reno and Las Vegas casinos have concluded there is a direct correlation between exposure to secondhand smoke in the workplace and damage to the employees' DNA.

"The more they were exposed to environmental tobacco smoke, the more the DNA damage, and that's going to lead to a higher risk of heart disease and cancer down the road," said Chris Pritsos.

Funded by a \$2.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health, the clinical trial followed 125 employees who work on the gambling floors of casinos in both northern and southern Nevada.

The subjects of the study were nonsmokers who were not exposed to secondhand smoke in their households, said Pritsos, chairman of the nutrition department at UNR.

"This is the first major study ever done looking at exposure to environmental tobacco smoke in the work force," Pritsos said. He added that casino floor workers are exposed to four times the amount of secondhand cigarette and cigar smoke than any other work force population.

Several Reno area casino executives who were asked by the Reno Gazette-Journal to respond to the study's findings did not return telephone calls.

Frank J. Fahrenkopf, president and chief executive officer of the American Gaming Association, said the smoking issue is a balancing act for casinos.

"In our industry, we realize we have customers who want to smoke, and that's a fact of life," he said. "Our No. 1 priority is the health and welfare of both our customers and our employees, and secondhand smoke poses a real issue for us."

Casinos put a lot of money into air conditioning and ventilation systems to try to accommodate smokers and nonsmokers, Fahrenkopf said.

"Any new major hotel-casino in Nevada is going to have the utmost cutting-edge technology designed to drag that smoke out of there so our employees and nonsmoking customers are not affected," he said. "No system is perfect yet, but we continue as an industry to work on it."

Alex Goldstein, a tourist visiting Reno from San Francisco, said he recently became a nonsmoker but doesn't support banning smoking in all public areas, as Scotland and Ireland have done. "It's a tough issue because smoking kind of infringes on other people's rights," Goldstein said.

Diana Woodbury, a violinist and dancer, won't perform in casinos or other venues that allow smoking.

"It would kill me," said Woodbury, who lives in South Lake Tahoe. "I have asthma and bronchitis, and when I get around smoke, I get pains in my chest."

Even though most casino showrooms no longer allow smoking, Woodbury said the smoke that wafts in from the main casino floor is enough to make her ill. "If I walk past a smoker, within minutes, I can't breathe. I have to use an inhaler," she said.

Woodbury is adamant in her view about the dangers of secondhand smoke. "For every eight smokers that die of smoking, they take one nonsmoker with them. Innocent victims like Dana Reeve," she said.

The widow of the late actor and quadriplegic Christopher Reeve died in March of lung cancer.

"She used to perform in smoky nightclubs and now she's dead," Woodbury said. "Only 44 years old, the same age I am."

The Nevada State Health Division said there are no data available on the number of deaths in the state caused by secondhand smoke.

This year, a secondhand smoke case filed by the widow of a nonsmoker who died at the age of 40 was settled in her favor Jan. 16, 10 years after Larry Ray Thaxton died of lung cancer.

A lifelong nonsmoker, Thaxton worked for the Norfolk Southern Railroad in an outdoor job. Thaxton complained about his constant exposure to co-workers' secondhand tobacco smoke in the bunk cars where he lived during the work week.

The expert witness in the case was James Repace, a physicist who will be helping Pritsos write a scientific paper on the results of the UNR professor's study on the effects of secondhand smoke on casino workers.

"Repape will be doing an analysis of our data in terms of air quality and the environmental tobacco smoke the participants of the study were exposed to," Pritsos said.

The paper first has to undergo a peer review, but Pritsos hopes to submit it for publication by the Journal of the American Medical Association later this year. A preliminary paper based on the results of 50 of the 125 subjects in Pritsos' clinical trial was published last December in Toxicology Letters.



New Jersey
Smoke-Free Air Act

about NJGASP

gambling

dining / restaurants

legislation / litigation

problem solver

more info / library

other places for help

contact

home

site map

order publications



Gambling

introduction | conditions in NJ casinos | health and safety | economics | legislation | litigation | public support | proliferation of smokefree gambling | other places for help, activism, solutions

Jurisdictions with Legislation Requiring Smokefree Gaming, as of June 21, 2007

U.S. States, Cities, and Territories (tribal casinos not included):

California
 Colorado (January 1, 2008)
 Delaware
 Florida
 Illinois (January 1, 2008) awaiting Governor's signature
 Maryland (February 1, 2008)
 Montana (September 1, 2009)
 Nevada (if 40 slot machines or fewer, bingo)
 New Jersey (bingo, racetracks and their simulcast facilities, Favorites simulcast in Vineland)
 New York
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (to be constructed)
 Washington
 Puerto Rico

Requires smokefree bingo:

Idaho Rhode Island
 Maine South Dakota
 Massachusetts Utah
 Ohio Vermont

815 U.S. municipalities (Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights, January 2007).

Other Countries and Provinces:

Australia, several provinces
 Canadian Provinces of Alberta, Ontario, Quebec, and Saskatchewan
 England (July 1, 2007)
 France (January 1, 2008)
 Hong Kong (mahjong parlors, 2009)

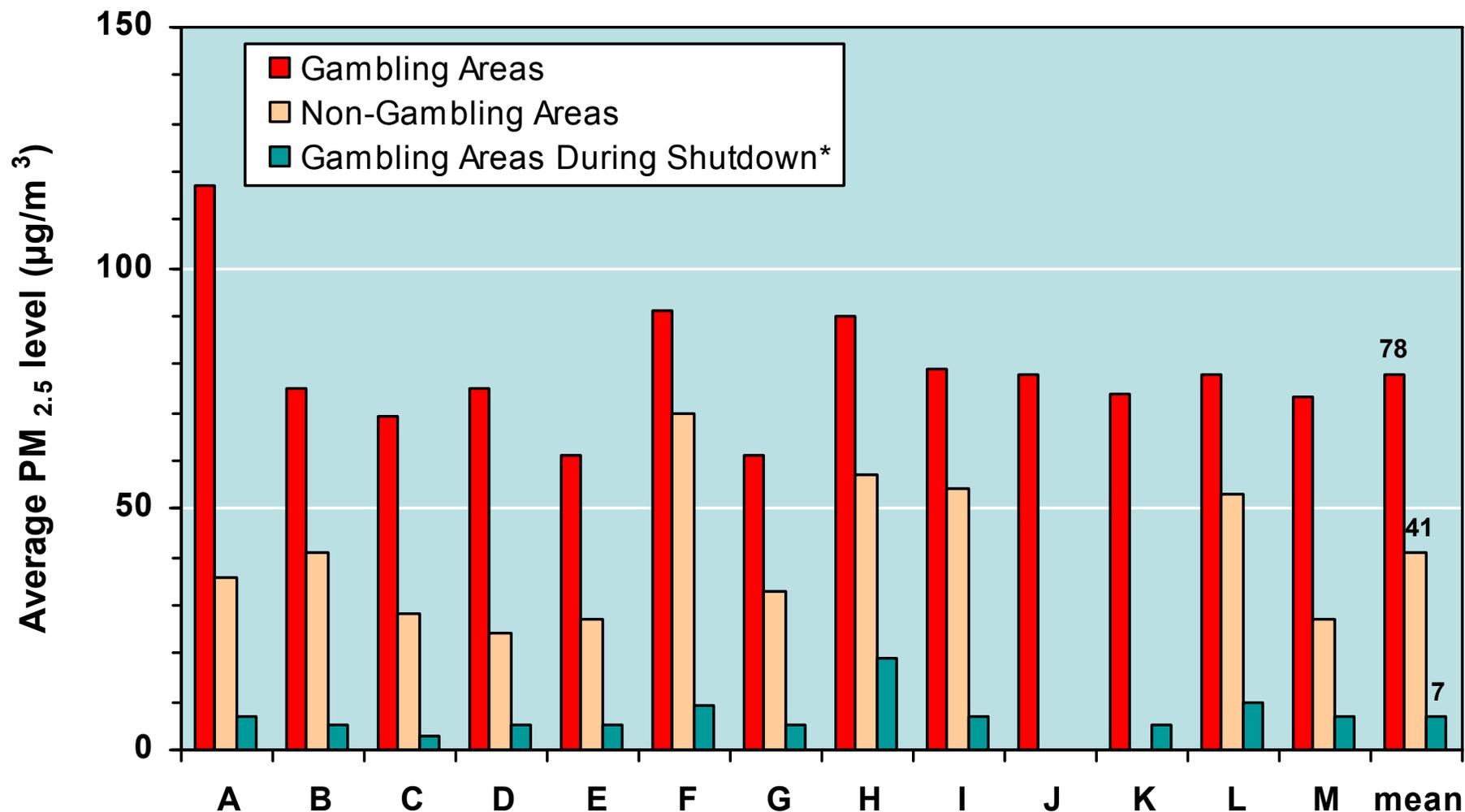
Italy
Ireland
New Zealand
Scotland
Ticino, Switzerland
Uruguay

Jurisdictions currently in the process of enacting legislation requiring smokefree gaming:

- New Jersey's Senate Health Committee passed a 100% smokefree casinos bill in 2007; full Senate vote on June 21, 2007.
- Pennsylvania's Senate Health Committee passed a smokefree workplace bill, including gaming venues (February 2007); full Senate expected to vote on June 25, 2007.

This page updated June 21, 2007

Average Level of Indoor Air Pollution in New Jersey Casinos



* There was no gambling allowed during these visits on July 6 and 7, 2006 due to a New Jersey state government shutdown. There was no observed smoking on the gambling floor during these visits.

PLUTO CASINO WORKERS

The Blueberry County Tobacco Coalition
wants you to know the facts:

- Secondhand smoke makes people sick and die¹
- There is no safe level of exposure¹
- Walls & ventilation systems do not protect you¹



Smoke-Free Workplace



Toxic Workplace

Where would your lungs rather work?

100% of Indiana casinos should be 100% smoke-free

PLEASE contact us if you want to help:

Blueberry County Tobacco Coalition
101 Main Street
Pluto, IN 12345

info@smokefreeindianacasinos.com

www.smokefreeindianacasinos.com

Because nobody deserves to work in an ashtray!

¹ Surgeon General's 2006 report on SHS - www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/secondhandsmoke/factsheets/factsheet6.html