

February 27, 2023

Dear Senator Larson and members of the Senate IBL committee. My name is Nancy Neary and I am urging a DO NOT PASS recommendation on HD 1229 which would provide an exemption for cigar bars under the state smoke-free law.

Currently under the smoke-free law, all businesses are treated the same, no business is allowed an exemption. Allowing an exemption for one group dissolves the level playing field which guarantees none are given special treatment.

If an exemption is made for cigar bars, the vaping industry will be the next most likely to ask for an exemption.

If marijuana is legalized in North Dakota, the cannabis industry will want an exemption.

Please do not undo this strong law that protects all North Dakota workers from secondhand smoke.

Thank you,

Nancy Neary
Jamestown