

"I have a right to smoke."

Recent data shows that only about 23% of adults over 18 in Richmond County smoke, making smokers the minority. What about the rights of the 77% of nonsmokers to breathe clean air?

"This is just another case of 'too much government.'"

Our government already monitors hospitality establishments and workplaces to make sure we're serving safe food and drink and that any chemicals are being used safely. How is smoking any different? It might be argued that safe, clean air is the most important of all.

"You knew that workplace allowed smoking when you applied. Why complain now? Just get another job."

Finding another job in this economy isn't always that easy. And many workers may not have fully realized the negative physical effects of secondhand smoke on their health until they actually breathed it in during an entire 8-hour shift. You shouldn't have to choose between your health and a paycheck.

"You do-gooders are trying to take away our rights."

Simply put, we care about the overall health of this community. If you choose to smoke, knowing the health effects, that's your choice. But the person next to you should have a choice too.

"This is going to be too hard to enforce."

Municipalities who have enacted smoking ordinances report that they are self-policing. Most people and businesses are good citizens who want to follow the law.



We're local people who care about the health of this community and are speaking out on behalf of workers and patrons who want to breathe clean air in workplaces.

Because everyone has the right to breathe clean indoor air