



NEW JERSEY
GASP INC.
Group Against Smoking Pollution

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Before the Health Care Administration Board

Trenton, NJ

I am Regina Carlson, Executive Director of New Jersey Group Against Smoking Pollution. New Jersey GASP is a nonprofit, educational organization with two goals, smokefree air for nonsmokers and tobacco-free lives for children.

We applaud the HCAB for proposing smokefree hospital regulations and offer the following information to support you:

1. Your proposed regulations are the right thing to do. Your proposed regulations are scientifically correct. Fire safety requires smokefree hospitals, especially because of nonambulatory patients and oxygen use. Air quality requires smokefree hospitals. Enclosed: EPA June, 1989, Environmental Tobacco Smoke, "Environmental tobacco smoke can be totally removed from the indoor air only by removing the source (cigarette smoking)."
2. There is no "right to smoke". The Constitution does not protect freedom to use addictive drugs or to pollute the air. "The right of an individual to risk his or her own health does not include the right to jeopardize the health of those who must remain around him or her...." Shimp v. New Jersey Bell, 1976. Legislation restricts smoking; litigation upholds smoking restrictions.
3. Such limits as you propose today are widespread. Enclosed: list of entirely smokefree companies including:
manufacturers, insurance companies, advertising agencies, hospitals, schools, newspapers, radio and TV, department stores, telephone operating companies, police departments, government offices, realtors, restaurants, truck lines, public utilities, prisons, football teams, opera companies

Asbury Park Press telephone companies in 10 states with
70,000 employees, including New Jersey Bell Boeing Computer
10,000 employees Boeing Electronics 5,000 E. Hanover