



Ohio Department of Health Priority: Tobacco Use Prevention, Cessation & Smoke-Free Workplace Act Enforcement

The Ohio Department of Health budget includes a proposal of \$5.5 million in state funding for the biennium (\$1.5 million each year to support a robust Quit Line and \$1.25 million each year dedicated to enforcement of the Smoke-Free Workplace Act) to address tobacco controls.

Ohio's Tobacco Quit Line

Free cessation help available through hotlines, such as the Ohio Tobacco Quit Line, remain one of the most effective methods of curbing smoking rates. Smokers are seven times more likely to kick the habit with the help of a Quit Line. The Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) had historically been used to fund the Quit Line. Currently there are zero dollars available. With only small amounts of federal funding, the Ohio Tobacco Quit Line went from providing free access to all Ohioans to restricting access to the most vulnerable populations— the uninsured, Medicaid recipients, and pregnant women. ODH's SFY 2014-2015 budget request includes a proposal for \$1.5 million in state funding in each year to support the Quit Line, which will increase Ohioans success rate in quitting tobacco products and will improve health outcomes.

Ohio's Smoke-Free Workplace Act

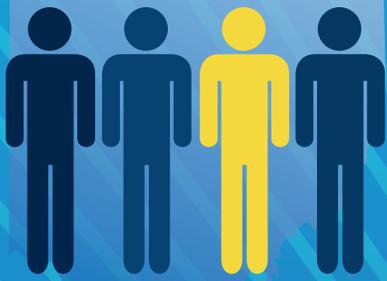
In 2006, Ohio voters passed the Smoke-Free Workplace Act to protect employees and customers from the negative health effects of secondhand smoke. In the months immediately following the implementation of the smoking ban, Ohio experienced a 26% statewide decrease in emergency room visits for heart-attack-related symptoms. While state law requires an investigation into each smoking complaint received from the public, slow collection processes and shrinking local budgets have prompted nearly one-third of the local health departments to return enforcement responsibility back to the state. To ensure that the state's efforts to conduct enforcement operations are met with continued success, ODH's SFY 2014-2015 budget request includes a proposal for \$1 million in state funding in each year of the biennium.

In Ohio, 25.1% of adults continue to smoke, the 6th highest rate of smoking in the US

Tobacco use remains the single most preventable cause of death and disease in the nation and Ohio

The American Lung Association estimates that smoking costs the state of Ohio more than \$9 billion dollars in health care expenditures and productivity losses each year.





25.1%

of Ohio Adults Smoke

6th Highest
in The

UNITED STATES

The amount of state funding Tobacco use cessation and prevention currently has...

\$0

Proposing **\$1,500,000**
(each year) in 2014 and 2015
to support the quit line



Smoking costs the state of Ohio more than

\$9,000,000,000

each year in health care expenditures and productivity losses



55%

of smokers
try to quit
each year



Without
assistance,
most will
relapse



16,900

kids per year become DAILY
smokers in Ohio.

EVERY YEAR

18,500

Adults in Ohio die from
smoking



Tobacco use is one of the leading
risk factors for chronic diseases
including heart disease,
cancer, stroke, diabetes

The **Ohio Tobacco Quit Line** used to be free to all Ohioans.

With limited federal funding, it now only serves Ohioans that are:
uninsured, pregnant, on Medicaid fee-for-service, or
members of a few insurers or employers.

Since Ohio's Smoke-Free Workplace Act went into
effect in 2006, there has been a 26%
decrease in ER visits for heart-attack
related symptoms.

The budget proposal will keep **\$1.25 Million** in state
funding dedicated to enforcement of the
Smoke-Free Workplace Act each year.



Ohio
Department of Health