

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1771

To amend the Public Health Service Act to protect the public from health hazards caused by exposure to environmental tobacco smoke, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 3, 1997

Mr. WAXMAN (for himself, Mr. HANSEN, and Mr. MEEHAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to protect the public from health hazards caused by exposure to environmental tobacco smoke, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Smoke-Free Environ-
5 ment Act of 1997”.

1 **SEC. 2. SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT POLICY.**

2 The Public Health Service Act is amended by adding
3 the following new title at the end thereof:

4 “TITLE XXVII—SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENTS

5 **“SEC. 2701. SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT POLICY.**

6 “(a) POLICY REQUIRED.—In order to protect chil-
7 dren and adults from cancer, respiratory disease, heart
8 disease, and other adverse health effects from breathing
9 environmental tobacco smoke, the responsible entity for
10 each public facility shall adopt and implement at such fa-
11 cility a smoke-free environment policy which meets the re-
12 quirements of subsection (b).

13 “(b) ELEMENTS OF POLICY.—Each smoke-free envi-
14 ronment policy for a public facility shall—

15 “(1) prohibit the smoking of cigarettes, cigars,
16 and pipes, and any other combustion of tobacco,
17 within the facility and on facility property within the
18 immediate vicinity of the entrance to the facility;
19 and

20 “(2) post a clear and prominent notice of the
21 smoking prohibition in appropriate and visible loca-
22 tions at the public facility.

23 The policy may provide an exception to the prohibition
24 specified in paragraph (1) for one or more specially des-
25 ignated smoking areas within a public facility if such area
26 or areas meet the requirements of subsection (c).

1 “(c) SPECIALLY DESIGNATED SMOKING AREAS.—A
2 specially designated smoking area meets the requirements
3 of this subsection if it satisfies each of the following condi-
4 tions:

5 “(1) The area is ventilated in accordance with
6 specifications promulgated by the Administrator that
7 insure that air from the area is directly exhausted
8 to the outside and does not recirculate or drift to
9 other areas within the public facility.

10 “(2) Nonsmoking individuals do not have to
11 enter the area for any purpose.

12 “(3) Children under the age of 15 are prohib-
13 ited from entering the area.

14 **“SEC. 2702. CITIZEN ACTIONS.**

15 “(a) IN GENERAL.—An action may be brought to en-
16 force the requirements of this title by any aggrieved per-
17 son, any State or local government agency, or the Admin-
18 istrator.

19 “(b) VENUE.—Any action to enforce this title may
20 be brought in any United States district court for the dis-
21 trict in which the defendant resides or is doing business
22 to enjoin any violation of this title or to impose a civil
23 penalty for any such violation in the amount of not more
24 than \$5,000 per day of violation. The district courts shall
25 have jurisdiction, without regard to the amount in con-

1 troversy or the citizenship of the parties, to enforce this
2 title and to impose civil penalties under this title.

3 “(c) NOTICE.—An aggrieved person shall give any al-
4 leged violator notice of at least 60 days prior to commence-
5 ing an action under this section. No action may be com-
6 menced by an aggrieved person under this section if such
7 alleged violator complies with the requirements of this title
8 within such 60-day period and thereafter.

9 “(d) COSTS.—The court, in issuing any final order
10 in any action brought pursuant to this section, may award
11 costs of litigation (including reasonable attorney and ex-
12 pert witness fees) to any prevailing party, whenever the
13 court determines such award is appropriate.

14 “(e) PENALTIES.—The court in any action under this
15 section to apply civil penalties shall have discretion to
16 order that such civil penalties be used for projects which
17 further the policies of this title. The court shall obtain the
18 view of the Administrator in exercising such discretion and
19 selecting any such projects.

20 “(f) DAMAGES.—No damages of any kind, whether
21 compensatory or punitive, shall be awarded in actions
22 brought pursuant to this title.

23 “(g) ISOLATED INCIDENTS.—Violations of the prohi-
24 bition specified in section 2701(b)(1) by an individual
25 within a public facility or on facility property shall not

1 be considered violations of this title on the part of the re-
2 sponsible entity if such violations—

3 “(1) are isolated incidents that are not part of
4 a pattern of violations of such prohibition; and

5 “(2) are not authorized by the responsible en-
6 tity.

7 **“SEC. 2703. PREEMPTION.**

8 “Nothing in this title shall preempt or otherwise af-
9 fect any other Federal, State or local law which provides
10 protection from health hazards from environmental to-
11 bacco smoke.

12 **“SEC. 2704. REGULATIONS.**

13 “The Administrator is authorized to promulgate such
14 regulations as the Administrator deems necessary to carry
15 out this title.

16 **“SEC. 2705. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

17 “The requirements of this title shall take effect on
18 the date one year after the date of the enactment of the
19 Smoke-Free Environment Act of 1997.

20 **“SEC. 2706. DEFINITIONS.**

21 “As used in this title—

22 “(1) the term ‘Administrator’ means the Ad-
23 ministrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;

24 “(2) the term ‘public facility’ means any build-
25 ing regularly entered by 10 or more individuals at

1 least one day per week, including any such building
 2 owned by or leased to a Federal, State, or local gov-
 3 ernment entity. Such term shall not include any
 4 building or portion thereof regularly used for resi-
 5 dential purposes; and

6 “(3) the term ‘responsible entity’ means, with
 7 respect to any public facility, the owner of such facil-
 8 ity, except that in the case of any such facility or
 9 portion thereof which is leased, such term means the
 10 lessee.”.

11 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITIONS AGAINST SMOKING ON SCHEDULED**
 12 **FLIGHTS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 41706 of title 49, United
 14 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

15 **“§ 41706. Prohibitions against smoking on scheduled**
 16 **flights**

17 “(a) SMOKING PROHIBITION IN INTRASTATE AND
 18 INTERSTATE AIR TRANSPORTATION.—An individual may
 19 not smoke in an aircraft on a scheduled airline flight seg-
 20 ment in interstate air transportation or intrastate air
 21 transportation.

22 “(b) SMOKING PROHIBITION IN FOREIGN AIR
 23 TRANSPORTATION.—The Secretary of Transportation
 24 shall require all air carriers and foreign air carriers to pro-
 25 hibit, on and after the 120th day following the date of

1 the enactment of the Smoke-Free Environment Act of
2 1997, smoking in any aircraft on a scheduled airline flight
3 segment within the United States or between a place in
4 the United States and a place outside the United States.

5 “(c) LIMITATION ON APPLICABILITY.—With respect
6 to an aircraft operated by a foreign air carrier, the smok-
7 ing prohibitions contained in subsections (a) and (b) shall
8 apply only to the passenger cabin and lavatory of the air-
9 craft.

10 “(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe
11 regulations necessary to carry out this section.”.

12 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
13 subsection (a) shall take effect on the 60th day following
14 the date of the enactment of this Act.

○