

Democratic radio: "Celebrating five years of a smoke-free Wisconsin"

Written by State Senate Democrats

Thursday, 30 July 2015 11:13 - Last Updated Thursday, 30 July 2015 11:32



MADISON, WI – Senator Fred Risser (D-Madison) offered the Democratic weekly radio address today. In his radio message, Sen. Risser highlighted the five year anniversary of Wisconsin's smoke-free workplace law.



"There is no substitute for clean indoor air and the smoke-free air law has been positive for business owners, employees and customers alike." - Sen. Fred Risser

The audio file of this week's address can be found [here](#) :

A written transcript of the address is below:

"Hi, I'm Senator Fred Risser with this week's Democratic Radio Address. Five years ago this month, Wisconsin's smoking-free workplace law went into effect. Despite strong opposition, this legislation was finally passed after many years of effort by a bipartisan coalition in the legislature.

"There is no substitute for clean indoor air and the smoke-free air law has been positive for business owners, employees and customers alike. A recent poll of Wisconsin voters by the Public Opinion Strategies Poll concluded that 86% of Wisconsin voters approve of this law. By a similar margin, 85% believe the rights of employees and customers to breathe clean, smoke-free air in bars and restaurants are more important than the rights of smokers to smoke indoors. Even a majority of smokers say they should step outside to light up.

"This legislation is an important reminder of the positive impact we can make when legislators on both sides of the aisle work together for the common good rather than focusing on political gamesmanship and partisan attacks.

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"Five years into Wisconsin's smoke-free law, there's still some more work to be done to reduce the health risks of secondhand smoke and keep cigarettes out of the hands of Wisconsin teens and youth. The effects of e-cigarettes on clean air is also being questioned. Let's build on our success and focus on ways to move Wisconsin forward, together. Thank you."