



Georgians for Responsible Marijuana Policy

Include marijuana smoking and vaping in all smokefree air ordinances

Overview:

Nobody should have to breathe secondhand marijuana smoke at work, in public, or where they live. Georgians for Responsible Marijuana Policy (GRMP) supports smoke free air environments where people work, live, dine, and visit. Exposure to secondhand marijuana smoke (including smoked, vaped, and other methods) is hazardous to health and should not be allowed in places where smoking is prohibited.



Key Facts:

- Secondhand cannabis smoke also contains tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the compound responsible for most of cannabis's psychoactive effects (or the "high").
- Secondhand cannabis smoke contains many of the same toxic and cancer-causing chemicals found in tobacco smoke and some in higher amounts.¹
- THC, the compound responsible for most of cannabis's psychoactive effects (or the "high"), can be passed to infants and children through secondhand smoke, and people exposed to secondhand cannabis smoke can experience psychoactive effects, such as feeling high.^{2,3}
- Being near people who are using inhaled cannabis is hazardous to human health.^{3,4}

Who is Impacted?

Children	Recent studies show children having detectable levels of THC when living with someone in the home who uses cannabis (e.g., a parent, relative, or caretaker). ⁵
Georgia's Workforce	Employees in hospitality venues such as bars, restaurants, casinos, music venues, and other service establishments where smoking is allowed are at risk for exposure to secondhand marijuana smoke.
Residents in Apartments and Condos	Secondhand smoke from neighboring units or common spaces can travel throughout buildings - seeping through hallways, walls, and ventilation systems. Residents of multi-unit housing buildings are at risk of exposure if smoking occurs in or around the building.
Georgia Citizens and Visitors	Anyone living in or visiting our state should be protected from the harms of secondhand smoke exposure where they live, work, or visit.

Policy Priorities

Increase Number of Smokefree Environments	Support policies at the local and state level to eliminate smoking in workplaces, public places, and multi-unit housing.
Oppose Legalizing Recreational Marijuana	Laws legalizing marijuana encourage smoking and increase exposure to secondhand smoke.
Establish Retail Buffer Zones	Retail outlets must be at minimum 3,000 feet away from schools and parks and 1,000 feet away from other retail outlets.
Prevent Public Consumption Sites	Oppose efforts to create marijuana consumption sites that will promote smoking and increase exposure to secondhand smoke.
Promote Marijuana Treatment and Prevention	Preventing marijuana use and misuse reduces risks of exposure to secondhand smoke.

References:

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Advocating for a balanced, science-based and compassionate approach to marijuana policy

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