

# THE LOUISIANA SMOKE-FREE AIR ACT AND NURSING HOMES



The Louisiana Smoke-Free Air Act (ACT 815) was enacted in January 2007 to protect workers and the public from exposure to secondhand smoke. ACT 490 provides specific information for nursing homes.

## Under ACT 490:

- Smoking is only allowed in designated and well-ventilated rooms of nursing homes.
- Designated rooms **cannot** be:
  - Reception areas
  - Lobby
  - Waiting room
  - Dining room
  - Any other public place

*\*To be in compliance with the law, post "No Smoking" signs and remove all ashtrays.*

SECONDHAND SMOKE IS  
A SERIOUS HEALTH  
THREAT IN LOUISIANA

- Approximately 1,000 children and adults die each year due to secondhand smoke exposure
- Breathing 30 minutes of secondhand smoke has the same effect as smoking a cigarette yourself
- Breathing secondhand smoke increases the risk of developing heart disease
- In children, exposure to secondhand smoke is associated with an increased risk of developing asthma

ACT 490  
House Bill No. 466  
By Representative Richard

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