

To the committee members,

As a voter and taxpayer, I would like to add my voice of support for the upcoming parliamentary bill on smoking in public places and in cars with children. As a runner, I am naturally eager to encourage healthy living; as an asthmatic, I battle constantly with public second-hand smoke. While I can ban people from smoking in my home, there is nothing I can do if I'm at a public venue that allows smoking. It is not only unpleasant but causes me a great deal of physical distress.

When I'm out with friends with children, I'm constantly appalled that people will light up around small children. You may be sitting in an alfresco dining area enjoying a meal when a smoker deems it acceptable to light up, never mind the discomfort or risk to non-smokers, adult and children alike, sitting nearby. While the City of Fremantle has taken the bold step of banning smoking in outdoor dining areas, it is incumbent on the health of all WA citizens that this ban extends to all parts of the state. The right to breathe clean, untainted air must supersede a smoker's right to light up.

Thank you for submitting this bill and I sincerely hope it passes.

Kind regards,

Kim Ribbink