SMOKE-FREE PALMETTO STATE CERTIFICATION

More than half of SC residents live in places that do not guarantee clean, indoor air. Local governments that have achieved comprehensive smoke-free protections applicable to all indoor workplaces, restaurants, and bars (includes e-cigarettes/vapes) deserve recognition for their leadership and commitment to the health and well-being of their community.

CERTIFICATION CRITERIA

Standards for **Smoke-Free Palmetto State Certification** are straightforward. To become certified, local governments must adopt and implement clean air protections that prohibit smoking and the use of e-cigarettes and vapes in all indoor workplaces, restaurants, and bars.

Clean air—free of both secondhand smoke and vaping toxins—remains the standard to protect health.

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SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF **PUBLIC HEALTH**

CERTIFIED
SMOKE-FREE
Palmetto
STATE
MEMBER

Recognizing Local Communities

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF **PUBLIC HEALTH**

SMOKE-FREE BUILDS BETTER ECONOMIES

Smoke-Free Palmetto State Certification was developed by public health experts informed by decades of research about the effect comprehensive smoke-free policies have on both local businesses and the health of the community.

FACT—Both smokers and non-smokers prefer to work in and/or to visit smoke-free environments (especially restaurants and bars)

FACT—Business owners boost their bottom line by saving thousands of dollars in building/property maintenance costs, increased productivity, lower liability insurance premiums, and lower employer-sponsored health insurance premiums with smoke-free workplaces

FACT—Property free from tobacco trash (butts and vape cartridges) and air pollution (secondhand smoke and vaping aerosol) appear clean and inviting to prospective clients, customers, and visitors

HEALTHY PEOPLE IN HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Science shows that smoking harms more than just the smoker. Secondhand smoke and aerosols from e-cigarettes/vaping cannot be cleaned from the air through filters or ventilation and can travel into "non-smoking" sections.

FACT—There is no risk-free level of secondhand smoke exposure

FACT—E-cigarettes release aerosol that can contain dangerous chemicals, NOT harmless water vapor

FACT—Exposure to secondhand smoke in the workplace causes heart disease and various cancers among nonsmokers

FACT—People protected by comprehensive smoke-free policies live longer, healthier lives and have fewer heart-related hospital emergencies

PROMOTION AND SUPPORT

Smoke-Free Palmetto State Certification is an achievement that demonstrates your commitment to improving lives in your community. Proudly display your **Smoke-Free Palmetto State Certification** with an official web banner/button and window decal. DPH staff can also provide media materials and attend press opportunities to present your certificate of distinction.