

Edward Miller  
Hallowell

Senator Claxton, Representative Meyer and members of the Committee on Health and Human Services. My name is Ed Miller. I am a resident of Hallowell and a retired public health professional. I am writing today to urge you to unanimously support LD 269, An Act to Prohibit Smoking in Bus Shelters.

My work in tobacco policy extends back to the first legislative proposals to address this issue in the early 1980s when I worked for the Bureau of Health (now Maine CDC) through nearly 30 years as the CEO of the American Lung Association in Maine. Maine has been and continues to be a leader in smoke free policy. For years we have consistently received an excellent smoke free policy grade in the American Lung Association's annual State of Tobacco Control Report Card.

This proposal fills one of the few loopholes left in our smoke free policy. Those who use public transportation deserve the same protection from secondhand smoke while they wait for the bus that they receive once they board the bus.

Thank you for your consideration