

## **JOINT STATEMENT ON THE SMOKING ORDINANCE**

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION CHAIR MARK BUGHER AND  
JOINT BOARD OF HEALTH CHAIR DR. ALAN SCHWARTZSTEIN**

**September 20, 2005**

As chairmen of Madison's Economic Development Commission and the Board of Health for Madison and Dane County – the two citizen committees that reviewed proposed changes to the smoking ban – we support Mayor Cieslewicz's call for a financial partnership to promote Madison's smoke free taverns.

Healthy employees and healthy businesses are not incompatible. We believe that promoting smoke free Madison to both area residents and national and international conventions will help establishments regain any business that may have been lost to the smoking ban. Local businesses will benefit far more if all the energy and money that would otherwise fund a battle over a referendum would be used instead to directly help businesses market their smoke free environment.

It is clear that there is not political support in Madison to repeal the smoke free ordinance. Given that fact, establishments impacted by the new law would benefit from participating in the promotion of the benefits of a smoke free environment.

We commend the Mayor for initiating this constructive offer. We thank Smokefree Wisconsin for agreeing to match the funds. And we sincerely hope the tavern industry will agree to participate as well.

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