

Dear Mr Sartor,

Last year NSW government promised that there would be smoke free pubs and clubs by July 2007. I understand the government is now being lobbied to allow venues to effectively avoid this welcome measure by operating smoky rooms which are still mostly enclosed. Since the research continues to show exposure to second-hand smoke is a serious health risk whether indoors or outdoors, such rooms would constitute a risk to patrons and especially to bar workers and entertainers, inconsistent with this state's OHS laws. The overwhelming majority of NSW citizens support smoke free workplaces and would like to see firm leadership by your government in ensuring the deadline is not avoided. On behalf of the Public Health Association of Australia, NSW Branch, I urge you to take immediate steps to rule out mostly-enclosed smoky rooms and to ensure that no-one will be expected to work in smoky areas.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Garth Alperstein  
President,  
PHAA NSW Branch

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