



Tony Evers

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

December 5, 2025

To the Honorable Members of the Assembly:

I am vetoing Assembly Bill 211 in its entirety.

This bill would exempt tobacco bars from the state smoking ban if the tobacco bar came into existence on or after June 4, 2009, allows only the smoking of cigars and pipes, and is not a retail food establishment. The tobacco bar must further display a notice that smoking cigars and pipes is allowed on the premises and must prohibit individuals under the age of 21 from entering the tobacco bar. Finally, employees of the tobacco bar must sign an acknowledgement that they will be subjected to secondhand smoke, and the tobacco bar must include building plan documents demonstrating sufficient air filtration and exhaust in license applications and renewals.

I am vetoing this bill in its entirety because I object to the negative impact this legislation will have on the public health of the people of Wisconsin. Secondhand smoke, a known carcinogen, causes serious health problems and is responsible for thousands of deaths on an annual basis.

Wisconsin's smoke-free air law was enacted over 15 years ago to ensure that everyone has the right to breathe clean air while at work and in public places. This public policy was a critically important step forward for keeping kids, families, and communities healthier and safer, improving public health and, most importantly, saving thousands of lives. As a former smoker and esophageal cancer survivor, I cannot in good conscience reverse course on that important step for public health, safety, and well-being by restoring indoor smoking in certain public spaces.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Evers
Governor