

Mr. Donald B. Furr, Sr.
22 S Hampton Drive
Charleston, SC 29407
843-766-8784

November 3, 1999

Honorable Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr.
80 Broad Street
Charleston, S. C. 29401

Re: City of Charleston smoking ban

Dear Mayor Riley:

My company, R. J. Reynolds Tobacco, moved me to Charleston in 1958. After getting married, and raising three children, my wife and I decided that Charleston would be our home. The company asked me to move to a larger city, but I said "no". We live in Sandhurst and love it.

After sitting back and listening to Councilman Duke Hagerty's committee recommend no smoking in restaurants and public places, I feel I have to speak on this issue.

I am retired from R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company, and I know a lot of retired people in Charleston that depend on tobacco money to pay their bills.

There are many small and large businesses that depend on tobacco sales to help keep their doors open. If smoking is banned, a lot of small and large businesses will feel the effect.

After looking at the smoker's and non smoker's views, I think the City of Charleston should help both sides. We need a city committee to work with restaurants, bars, etc., in the City of Charleston to try and solve the smoking and non smoking issue.

Non smokers should not have to eat or drink in an area where they smell tobacco smoke or any other odors. Smokers also have a right to smoke when they eat and drink.

To clear this up now and forever, the small and large restaurants and bars need to work with the City and State to install ventilation systems that will remove tobacco smoke and other odors. This would help business in Charleston, and also keep the smokers and non smokers happy.

If we are going to ban smoking, why not put a limit on alcohol; say two drinks per person. That includes wine and beer. All three have about the same amount of alcohol. I cannot remember when a person smoked a cigarette and drove off and killed 10 or 15 people. Can you?

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Thanks for your help in regard to this issue.

Sincerely,

Donald B. Furr Sr.

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P. S.

I gave Dr. Duke Hagerty about \$10,000.00 of "tobacco money" for surgical procedures for my wife and me. He had no trouble accepting it.

cc: Copies to all Charleston city councilmembers

11-2-99

Rynn Hutchins R/R FAX # 1-336-7411-205

*This is a letter to the Mayor and to each of the
12 Charleston, S.C. Council Members from
DON FURR Retired R. I. R. Sea Store Sales Dept
Also Editor Letter on Editorial page in Today
Post and Courier Newspaper (Today 11-2-99) We'll
Keep you informed.*

*Bill Davenport
P.O. Box 39383
North Beine Station*

The Post and Courier - Editorial page Thursday 11-2-99
Let market set smoking rules