



March 2, 2007

Ald. Robert G. Donovan
(414) 286-3778

MEDIA ADVISORY

Serb Hall Rally Tomorrow Against Smoking Ban

Government is infringing on the rights of all when it decides to pick and choose which activities and businesses should be restricted, and that's exactly how **Ald. Bob Donovan** and many small business owners view Governor Doyle's proposed statewide ban on smoking in all places accessible to the public. The alderman will be joined by small business owners, members of the Tavern League, and citizens who are strongly opposed to the smoking ban during a **public rally tomorrow (Saturday, March 3, 2007) from noon to 3 p.m. at American Serb Memorial Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave. Media coverage is invited.**

Ald. Donovan, whose 8th Aldermanic District is sprinkled with dozens of small family-owned taverns, has publicly renounced the proposed statewide smoking ban and tax increase on cigarettes announced by the Governor in January.

Ald. Donovan said anyone opposed to the proposed ban and tax hike is welcome to attend the rally. "I think people should not underestimate the strong opinions that many smokers have on this unfair and, in my opinion, un-American proposal," he said. "There are plenty of restaurants and bars where people can go that either substantially restrict where people can smoke or that have 'no smoking' sections. People should be able to choose whether they want to go to a place like that or to a bar that allows people to smoke. It's blatantly unfair to target smokers and to try to cast them in a negative light. And, it's equally unfair to target small bar owners who depend on a regular customer base that includes smokers."

WHAT: Public rally against smoking ban

WHEN: 12 p.m. (noon), Saturday, March 3

WHERE: Serb Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave.