

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 200

Reps. Young, Rheingans, MacDonell, Morgan and Weiss offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to urge the Wayne County Airport Authority to
2 halt plans to open a cigar bar inside the Detroit Metropolitan
3 Airport.

4 Whereas, The Wayne County Airport Authority, which operates
5 the Detroit Metropolitan Airport (DTW), plans to issue a request
6 for proposals to open a cigar bar and restaurant in the McNamara
7 Terminal. This plan would require an exemption from Michigan's
8 smoke-free air law, which has prohibited indoor smoking in DTW
9 since 2010. Moving forward with an exemption would roll back more
10 than 15 years of established health protections for travelers and
11 employees and undermine Michigan's progress toward ensuring public
12 places are smoke-free; and

13 Whereas, Michigan voters largely oppose opening a cigar bar in

1 the airport. A statewide poll conducted by EPIC-MRA in late June
2 2025 found that 77 percent of Michigan voters oppose placing a
3 cigar lounge inside DTW. This could be because cigars cater to a
4 finite group of consumers. In 2021, only 3.5 percent of all adults
5 and only one percent of adult women were estimated to smoke cigars.
6 The number of cigar users pales in comparison to the estimated 88.4
7 percent of Americans and 86.4 percent of Michigan residents who do
8 not smoke; and

9 Whereas, Secondhand smoke is deadly. Every year in Michigan,
10 over 1,740 nonsmokers die as a result of exposure to secondhand
11 smoke. Cigar smoke is especially harmful. A single, large cigar can
12 contain as much tobacco as an entire pack of cigarettes. Secondhand
13 smoke can trigger an asthma attack in a child, and even brief
14 exposure can cause damage to the body and increase the risk of
15 heart attack; and

16 Whereas, Ventilation is not sufficient to remove tobacco smoke
17 and protect individuals' health. The American Society of Heating,
18 Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers issued a position
19 document stating that "[t]he only means of avoiding health effects
20 and eliminating indoor [environmental tobacco smoke] exposure is to
21 ban all smoking activity inside and near buildings"; and

22 Whereas, Detroit-area airports, including DTW, provide a
23 workplace for more than 18,000 employees. Comprehensive, 100
24 percent smoke-free workplace policies are the only effective way to
25 eliminate secondhand smoke exposure in the workplace. Secondhand
26 cigar smoke puts workers at risk of cardiovascular disease and
27 cancer. Annually, smoking-related illnesses and premature deaths
28 cause over 156 billion dollars in lost productivity in the United
29 States, including 5.6 billion dollars in lost productivity due to

1 secondhand smoke. In Michigan alone, a loss of 11.5 billion dollars
2 in annual productivity is attributed to smoking-related illnesses
3 and premature deaths; and

4 Whereas, Allowing indoor smoking in airports is atypical. Of
5 the top 35 airports in the United States, all but three prohibit
6 indoor smoking. Opening a cigar bar normalizes smoking and
7 unhealthy behaviors in an environment where tens of millions of
8 people travel each year, including many families with young
9 children; now, therefore, be it

10 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the
11 Wayne County Airport Authority to halt plans to open a cigar bar
12 inside the Detroit Metropolitan Airport; and be it further

13 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
14 board members and the Chief Executive Officer of the Wayne County
15 Airport Authority and the Director of Concessions and Quality
16 Assurance at Detroit Metropolitan Airport.