2011 SURVEY INDICATES WIDESPREAD SUPPORT FOR A SMOKE-FREE WORKPLACE LAW IN TEXAS

A survey of Texas voters conducted by Baselice & Associates revealed the following:

- 70 percent favor a proposed statewide law that would prohibit smoking in indoor workplaces and public facilities including public buildings, offices, restaurants and bars. Of those surveyed, 67 percent of Republicans, 69 percent of Independents and 74 percent of Democrats favor the proposed law.

- Over half of voters with Tea Party Views favor the proposed law.

- 90 percent agree that all workers should be protected from exposure to secondhand smoke in the workplace.

- 63 percent are more likely to vote for a state legislator who supports the smoke-free law.

- 90 percent indicated that they would go out to bars and restaurants more often or as often as they do now if a statewide smoke-free law was passed in Texas (66 percent indicated they would go out as often as they do now while 24 percent indicated they would go more often than they do now; 8 percent indicated they would go less often).

- 63 percent of current smokers would go out to bars and restaurants about as often as they do now if the legislature passes the law. Overall, there would be a net increase of 16 percent of those surveyed that would go out more often if a smoke-free law were in effect.

- 76 percent believe the rights of employees and customers to breathe clean air in restaurants and bars is more important than the rights of smokers to smoke and businesses owners to allow smoking.

- 85 percent believe that secondhand smoke is a health hazard, including 61 percent who say it is a serious health hazard.

All Texans deserve to breathe clean indoor air!