

City Council Member #1

You are a member of the Summerville City Council. Shortly, the Council will vote on a new ordinance (or law) that would ban all smoking in restaurants and other indoor workplaces. You must decide to vote in favor of the new ordinance (“yes”) or against it (“no”).

To help you decide, you are going to “sit in” on a meeting of the **Restaurant Owners Association**. Because you have many restaurant owners in the part of the city that you represent, it is important that you strongly consider their views when you cast your vote.

When you join the meeting of the **Restaurant Owners Association**, try to ask them questions about why they favor or oppose the new law. Ask them, for example, if they are being fair to nonsmokers who come to the restaurant. Ask them how they would answer an employee who says they are getting sick from breathing the smoke of customers.

Here’s what will happen next:

1. After about 10 minutes, the “Mayor” will ask you to come back and sit with the Council. A representative from several “interest groups” will try to encourage you to vote “yes” or “no.” Be ready to ask questions of each representative. Then, be ready to vote “yes” or “no.” Also, be ready to offer a reason for your vote. This first vote is only for everyone to see how the Council feels right now. It is not the final vote.
2. After all the Council has voted, the Mayor will invite people to talk with each other. (At that time, you will be instructed to turn this sheet over and follow the lobbying instructions on the back.)
3. The Mayor will then call you back to take a final vote.

If you have any questions, go ask the Mayor now. If not, please go join the Restaurant Owners Association.