

## Restaurant Owners Association

You own a restaurant in Summerville and you are a member of the Summerville Restaurant Owners Association. About 20% of the people who come to your restaurant smoke while they eat their meal. The City Council is considering a law that would ban all smoking in restaurants. You must decide whether to favor this new law or oppose it. Here are some things to consider:

- You do not want to upset or offend your smoking customers. They might stop coming to your restaurant and go to one in a different town where they are allowed to smoke.
- You already provide a “nonsmoking section” for nonsmokers.
- It is your restaurant. It is a free country. Why should government tell you how to run your business?
- If some waiters don’t like working in the smoking section, you can move them to the nonsmoking section. If they still don’t like it, they can work elsewhere.

Here’s what is going to happen next:

1. One person from your group will tell the City Council how you think they should vote. That person should be ready to provide reasons for why the Council should vote “yes” or “no.” The person will have about 2 minutes to share the views of the Restaurant Owners Association.
2. After representatives from each group share their views, the Council will take their “first” vote. This vote doesn’t count.
3. After the Council has voted, you will be invited to try to convince others in the room that your views are correct. (At that time, you will be told to turn this sheet over and follow the instructions on the back.)
4. The Mayor will then call the Council back and allow you to add anything new. Then a final vote will be taken.

**OK, start now by selecting the person that will represent you before the Council. Then decide whether you think your group (the Restaurant Owners Association) should encourage the Council to vote “yes” or “no.” Help your representative prepare as many arguments as possible to support your position. (A member of the City Council may sit in on your meeting.)**