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Legislator Martinez Moves to Regulate Smoking at Multiple Dwelling Buildings

Hauppauge, N.Y. – The Suffolk County Legislature unanimously voted in favor of a bill sponsored by Legislator Martinez that would ban smoking in common areas of multiple dwelling buildings, such as apartment complexes and condominiums.

The Legislator's district office received numerous complaints from residents who suffer from respiratory issues and live in apartment complexes within Brentwood, Central Islip and N. Bay Shore where they feel there was no protection from smoke inhalation.

"People should be able to breathe freely in their own homes," said Legislator Martinez. "The dangers of secondhand smoke, especially to children and the elderly are well documented. My district has one of the highest hospitalization rates of asthma in children which proves there is a direct correlation with their living environment."

The Legislator received the full support of her colleagues on Tuesday evening during the November 17th General Meeting. She is very hopeful that County Executive Bellone will sign the Bill into law. Once signed, this new legislation will regulate smoking in common areas; including but not limited to: halls, pathways, lobbies, courtyards, elevators, stairs, community rooms, playgrounds, etc. of multiple dwelling buildings and in proximity of entrances and ventilation intake units serving multiple dwelling buildings.



Evelyn Bermudez, housing complex resident with Legislator Monica R. Martinez.