

CONTACT: Allison Miller
American Cancer Society
Office: 608-662-7559
Cell: 608-358-0259



November 19, 2009
For Immediate Release

American Cancer Society Statement: Society Announces Decision on Whether to Appeal Smoke-Free Petition Ruling

American Cancer Society South Dakota Government Relations Director Jennifer Stalley issued the following statement Thursday regarding an appeal of Circuit Court Judge Kathleen Trandahl's ruling reinstating enough petition signatures to refer the smoke-free law to the 2010 ballot:

"The American Cancer Society will not appeal Judge Trandahl's ruling regarding the statewide smoke free law.

"It is appropriate that today, on the 34th annual American Cancer Society Great American Smoke Out—a day dedicated to helping smokers quit—the American Cancer Society, along with more than fifty diverse public health, business and medical groups, will begin in earnest our statewide effort to support the smoke free law on the November 2010 ballot and ensure that no one has to choose between their health and their job in our great state.

"We are confident that the vast majority of South Dakotans support this law and that by this time next year—the 35th annual Great American Smoke Out—South Dakota will be a smoke free state."

###

About the American Cancer Society

The American Cancer Society combines an unyielding passion with nearly a century of experience to save lives and end suffering from cancer. As a global grassroots force of more than three million volunteers, we fight for every birthday threatened by every cancer in every community. We save lives by helping people stay well by preventing cancer or detecting it early; helping people get well by being there for them during and after a cancer diagnosis; by finding cures through investment in groundbreaking discovery; and by fighting back by rallying lawmakers to pass laws to defeat cancer and by rallying communities worldwide to join the fight. As the nation's largest non-governmental investor in cancer research, contributing about \$3.4 billion, we turn what we know about cancer into what we do. As a result, about 11 million people in America who have had cancer and countless more who have avoided it will be celebrating birthdays this year. To learn more about us or to get help, call us any time, day or night, at 1-800-227-2345 or visit cancer.org.