EMAIL TO:
City Leader(s)

Dear [CITY LEADER'S NAME],

I am emailing to ask you to consider a smoke-free multifamily housing policy to protect people in apartments and condos from dangerous secondhand smoke, especially amid COVID-19.

[IN 1 OR 2 SENTENCES INTRODUCE YOURSELF AND STATE WHY YOU CARE ABOUT THIS ISSUE]

When people smoke, it emits harmful substances into the air around them. Secondhand smoke contains over 7,000 chemicals, and is linked to certain cancers and other diseases. CDC researchers say that "there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke."

Yet people who live in multifamily dwellings share the air with each other, and over half of non-smokers are exposed to secondhand smoke. Inside multifamily dwellings, secondhand smoke can travel through doorways, halls, windows, ventilation systems, electrical outlets, and gaps around fixtures and pipes.

This is why HUD already adopted a smoke-free policy in public housing.

But people in privately owned apartments, duplexes, and condominiums may not have such protection against secondhand smoke.

That's why I am asking you to consider a smoke-free multifamily housing policy to protect people in apartments and condos from dangerous secondhand smoke. This policy has the potential to protect the health of tenants and apartment/condo staff, as well as save apartment owners money in property maintenance, fire prevention, insurance, and reduced legal liability.

A rising number of U.S. cities are taking this action: https://salud.to/apartments. We can stand on their shoulders to customize a local policy: http://salud.to/smokefreepolicies. Here is a fact sheet on why this is important: http://salud.to/smokefreefacts.

What will you do toward supporting a smoke-free multifamily housing policy?

Salud America!
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I have contacted [NAMES OF PEOPLE YOU EMAILED OR SPOKE WITH IN STEP 1, IF YOU FOUND SOME], and they are in agreement. We would be happy to discuss this issue with you further.

Thank you,
[NAME, TITLE]
[CONTACT INFO]