

# **Anti-Smoking Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

Adopted by Decree No. 456 of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly on November 4, Juche Calendar 109 (2020)

## **Article 1** (Purpose of Anti-Smoking Law)

Anti-Smoking Law of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea aims to contribute to accelerating the construction of a socialist civilized country by strengthening control over smoking to protect the lives and health of the people and establish a culturally hygienic living environment.

## **Article 2** (Subject of Application for the Law)

This Law applies to institutions, enterprises, organizations, citizens, and foreigners within the territory of our country.

## **Article 3** (Principle of Strengthening the Anti-Smoking Campaign)

It is a consistent policy effort of the State to conduct anti-smoking campaigns vigorously.

The State shall intensify publicity among the people regarding the harmful effects of tobacco, ensure the social environment and material conditions related to smoking cessation, and enable all citizens to actively participate in the anti-smoking campaign.

## **Article 4** (Principles of Smoking Control)

Strengthening smoking control is an important requirement for protecting the lives and health of the people and the environment.

The State shall promptly designate smoking-prohibited areas and units and strengthen control over smoking to systematically reduce smoking rates.

## **Article 5** (Formulation of National Anti-Smoking Strategies)

The Central Public Health Agency shall formulate national anti-smoking strategies based on the State's anti-smoking policy, outlining development directions, phased goals, and implementation methods to reduce the percentage of people who smoke.

National anti-smoking strategies shall be approved by the Cabinet.

**Article 6** (Formulation and Implementation of Anti-Smoking Plans)

The relevant ministries, central agencies, and local people's committees shall formulate annual anti-smoking plans in accordance with National Anti-Smoking Strategies, ensuring they are scientifically sound and realistic, and shall implement them without fail.

**Article 7** (Surveying and Monitoring the Percentage of People Who Smoke)

Local People's Committees and smoking cessation research and dissemination institutions shall survey and monitor the percentage of people who smoke in their respective regions and report the situation to the Central Public Health Agency once a year.

**Article 8** (Scientific Research in the Field of Smoking Cessation)

The Central Public Health Agency, smoking cessation research and dissemination institutions, and scientific research institutions shall strengthen scientific research related to smoking cessation and actively develop various pharmaceuticals and functional food products that aid smoking cessation treatment.

**Article 9** (Public Service of Smoking Cessation Activities)

The Central Public Health Agency and smoking cessation research and dissemination institutions shall establish a nationwide, society-wide public service system for smoking cessation and actively carry out public service activities for smoking cessation, such as promotions, counseling, and treatments for smoking cessation to increase the percentage of people who quit smoking.

**Article 10** (Smoking Prohibited Locations and Units)

Smoking is prohibited in the following places and units:

1. Revolutionary battlefields, revolutionary historical sites, revolutionary museums, revolutionary historical halls, revolutionary historical monuments, and commemorative markers, such as political and ideological education sites
2. Public places, such as theaters, movie theaters, community centers, libraries, exhibition halls, gymnasiums, plazas, bus stops, waiting rooms, and public restrooms
3. Childcare and education institutions, such as daycare centers and kindergartens
4. Educational institutions, such as elementary schools, middle schools, universities, and training centers

5. Medical and health facilities, such as hospitals, clinics, and sanatoriums
6. Commercial and catering service facilities, such as inns, hotels, shops, restaurants, barbershops, and bathhouses
7. Passenger aircraft, passenger trains, passenger ships, subway trains, streetcars, buses, and other public transportation vehicles
8. Forest areas, lumber mills, paper mills, threshing floors, and other locations with fire hazards
9. Explosive storage facilities, fuel sales outlets, fuel storage facilities, gas supply stations, and other locations with explosion hazards
10. Other locations designated by institutions, enterprises, or organizations

**Article 11** (Installation of No Smoking Signs)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations shall affix no-smoking signs in designated no-smoking areas and other necessary locations within their units, and shall control to prevent people from smoking in such areas and units.

The Central Public Health Agency, the Central Standardization Agency, the Central Urban Management Agency, Local People's committee, and all relevant agencies shall standardize non-smoking signs and regularly monitor their installation status.

**Article 12** (Designated Smoking Areas)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations may designate smoking areas in rooms equipped with ventilation facilities and in necessary outdoor locations, subject to approval from their respective superior authorities.

Citizens shall smoke only in designated smoking areas. Rural areas may adapt to their specific circumstances.

**Article 13** (Installation of Health Hazard Warning Pictograms)

Institutions, enterprises, and organizations shall display vivid health hazard images in designated smoking rooms that depict the harmful effects of tobacco so graphically to the extent that smokers feel embarrassed.

The Central Public Health Agency, the Central Standardization Agency, and the relevant agencies shall standardize the warning images and ensure they are regularly updated.

**Article 14** (Prohibition of Smoking in Public Places)

Citizens shall not smoke while walking on streets or in public places in Pyongyang City, provinces, cities, or county seats, nor shall they carelessly discard cigarette butts anywhere.

**Article 15** (Prohibited Smoking Areas)

Minors and students are prohibited from smoking.

**Article 16** (Publicity Campaign for Smoking Cessation and Against the Harmfulness of Tobacco)

The Central Public Health Agency, publishing and broadcasting organizations, and relevant agencies shall regularly conduct publicity on the harmful effects of tobacco, broadcast criticism of violations of smoking regulations, provide informational materials, and widely introduce and promote methods for quitting smoking.

**Article 17** (Restrictions on Tobacco Production and Sales Permits)

National planning agencies, the DPRK Tobacco Association, the Central Product Production Licensing Agency, the Central Commercial Agency, relevant agencies, enterprises, and organizations shall reduce the production volume of tobacco products in accordance with the requirements of the national anti-smoking policy, systematically consolidate and reduce tobacco production units, and strictly limit the supply and sales permits for tobacco.

**Article 18** (Regulation of Permissible Limits for Harmful Substances)

The Central Health Agency, the Central Standardization Agency, the Central Quality Supervision Agency, and the Central Product Production Licensing Agency shall establish permissible limits for harmful substances in tobacco, such as nicotine and tar, and shall regularly conduct measurements and inspections thereof.

Tobacco products exceeding the permissible limits for harmful substances shall not be produced or sold.

**Article 19** (Cigarette Warning Label)

Relevant institutions, enterprises, and organizations shall label cigarette packs with health hazard warnings and the content of nicotine, tar, and carbon monoxide as prescribed.

**Article 20** (Control of Tobacco Sales)

Tobacco may only be sold at approved service establishments. Tobacco may not be sold to minors or students.

**Article 21** (Posting of Notices at Tobacco Sales Locations)

The service provider must post a notice at the tobacco sales location stating the harmful effects of tobacco and that tobacco is not sold to minors or students.

**Article 22** (Prohibition of Tobacco Sales Promotion)

The relevant institutions, enterprises, and organizations shall not use trademarks, decorations, or markings on tobacco products that attract people's interest, nor shall they advertise or promote tobacco sales through publications or media.

The production, import, or sale of decorative items, toys, or food products imitating cigarettes is prohibited.

**Article 23** (Restrictions on Tobacco Importation)

Institutions, enterprises, organizations, and citizens shall not import tobacco or tobacco production materials without authorization. They shall not bring in smokeless tobacco or electronic cigarettes when traveling abroad for business or tourism.

Customs authorities shall impose higher tariffs on the importation of tobacco and tobacco production materials.

**Article 24** (Supervision and Control)

Supervision and control of the anti-smoking campaign shall be carried out by the relevant supervisory and control agencies, including prosecuting agencies, public security organizations, and health inspection agencies.

Prosecuting agencies, public security organizations, health inspection agencies, and relevant supervisory and control agencies shall strictly supervise and control the anti-smoking campaign.

**Article 25** (Fines for Citizens Violating Smoking Regulations)

Citizens who violate the following smoking regulations shall be subject to the corresponding fines.

1. Smoking while walking or carelessly discarding cigarette butts on streets or in public places in Pyongyang City and other provincial, city, and county capitals will result in a fine of 5,000 to 10,000 won.
2. Smoking in designated no-smoking areas or within work units: 10,000 to 100,000 won
3. Individual citizens selling cigarettes: 50,000 to 100,000 won

**Article 26** (Fines for Institutions, Enterprises, and Organizations Violating Smoking Regulations)

The following fines shall be imposed on institutions, enterprises, or organizations violating the no-smoking order:

1. Failure to establish designated smoking areas as required: 100,000 won
2. For advertising or promoting tobacco sales: 100,000 to 500,000 won
3. Failure to post health hazard warnings or notices on tobacco sales locations and cigarette packs as required 100,000 to 500,000 won
4. For applying trademarks, decorations, or markings to tobacco products that attract people's interest: 100,000 to 500,000 won
5. Selling cigarettes at an unapproved service provider incurs a fine of 500,000 to 1,500,000 won
6. For producing or selling cigarettes exceeding the permitted levels of harmful substances: 1,000,000 to 1,500,000 won
7. Selling cigarettes to minors or students: 1.5 million won

**Article 27** (Punishment of Re-education Through Labor for Citizens Violating Smoking Regulations)

Citizens who violate the following smoking regulations shall be subject to Punishment by re-education through labor.

1. Smoking at political education sites, such as revolutionary battlefields, revolutionary historical sites, or revolutionary monuments
2. Smoking in locations with explosion hazards, such as gunpowder depots or fuel depots
3. Smoking in forest areas
4. Selling cigarettes multiple times to minors or students

**Article 28** (Warning, Strict Warning, and Unpaid Labor as Punishment for Officials Violating Smoking Regulations)

Responsible officials of institutions, enterprises, or organizations that violate the following smoking regulations shall be subject to warnings, strict warnings, or unpaid labor as punishment as prescribed.

1. In cases of producing or selling tobacco products without health hazard warnings or tobacco composition labels

2. Violating tobacco import regulations
3. In cases of reckless issuance of tobacco production and sales permits

**Article 29** (Penalties of Business Suspension or Closure)

Where the provisions under Article 26 of this Law are serious, business suspension or revocation penalties shall be imposed.

**Article 30** (Criminal Charges)

Responsible officials of institutions, enterprises, or organizations, and individual citizens who violate the Law and cause serious consequences shall bear the corresponding criminal charges.

**Article 31** (Relationship with Other Laws)

Matters not regulated by this Act, such as the principles, procedures, and methods for applying penalties for violations of the smoking ban, shall be governed by the relevant laws and regulations.