



## Sample Letter from Multiunit Housing Resident to Elected Official

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Date

Dear [Representative/Senator] [NAME],

My name is [name] and I live at [property name] at [street address] in [city]. I am writing to express my urgent concern regarding the enforcement of Minnesota's new cannabis law that prohibits the vaping and smoking of cannabis products in multifamily housing.

Since adult-use cannabis became legal in 2023, I have been experiencing an increase in secondhand cannabis smoke infiltrating my home from neighboring units. I have faced significant health consequences from this exposure, and I am deeply concerned about the current lack of enforcement mechanisms to protect me and my neighbors. Studies show that secondhand marijuana smoke contains many of the same cancer-causing substances and toxic chemicals as secondhand tobacco smoke, including those linked to lung cancer. [Include additional details about how secondhand cannabis smoke has impacted you. For example: "The secondhand smoke gives me headaches," or "Some nights I can't sleep in my own bedroom because of the smoke."]

The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) updated its air standards to include cannabis smoke (as well as emissions from electronic smoking devices) in its definition of "environmental tobacco smoke. I have taken steps to address this issue, including [List all that apply to your situation]:

- Closed points of air transfer into my unit with pads and seals
- Purchased air filters and fans
- Requested assistance from my [property manager/HOA] to (adopt a smoke-free policy/extend the smoke-free policy to include cannabis for better compliance and enforcement).
- Spoke with neighbors to ask them not to smoke cannabis indoors.
- Sought medical treatment for symptoms caused by secondhand cannabis smoke exposure.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Unfortunately, these actions have not resolved the issue, and I have spent \$\_\_\_\_\_ of my own money trying to protect myself from the harmful effects of secondhand cannabis smoke.

This issue underscores an urgent need for the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) to establish a clear and effective complaints and enforcement process for renters being harmed by secondhand cannabis smoke. We need prompt action to address these complaints and ensure

that the OCM enforces this provision of the law. Without proper enforcement, the law's intent to protect residents from the dangers of secondhand cannabis smoke is not being realized.

I urge you to take immediate action to enforce the law. Specifically, I ask that you advocate for the OCM to create a robust complaints process and ensure timely responses to these serious concerns. Everyone deserves to breathe clean air in their own home and be free from the harmful effects of secondhand cannabis smoke.

The Live Smoke Free program offers resources and more information at <https://mnsmokefreehousing.org/cannabis/>. I am happy to discuss this issue with you further. Thank you for prioritizing the health of your constituents. I look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you,

[First and last name]

[Address]

[Email address]

[Phone number]