

Forum editorial: Smoking defenders win spurge

LEAFY SPURGE: To smoking defenders who still have not gotten the message that smoking and secondhand smoke bans are the law of the land because the people of the land have voted.

By: **Forum Editorial Board**, INFORUM

LEAFY SPURGE: To smoking defenders who still have not gotten the message that smoking and secondhand smoke bans are the law of the land because the people of the land have voted. The bans in place in Fargo and West Fargo, for example, are the results of vigorous debates, campaigns and voting. When the smoke cleared, residents of those places overwhelmingly favored public health over mythical business rights. Indeed, wherever the question has been put to voters, smoking loses. In the minds of a huge majority of Minnesotans, North Dakotans and Americans in other states, the argument has been settled. Now if North Dakota legislators had the courage to actually represent their constituents, a statewide ban would be in place. As it is, the best option would be to put in on the ballot.