

Decree of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health

concerning smoking rooms in restaurants and other catering establishments

Issued in Helsinki on 3 November 2006

By decision of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health

pursuant to Section 13(d)(4) of Act 693/1976 of 13 August 1976 on measures to reduce smoking, as amended by Act 700/2006, , the following is enacted:

Section 1

Structure of the smoking room

The smoking room shall be air-tight.

The top of the door shall be at least 400 millimetres from the ceiling.

Access to the smoking room shall be arranged in such a way that no tobacco smoke can escape.

Section 2

Ventilation

Smoking rooms shall always be under lower air pressure. Air may enter a smoking room only via a door from an adjacent room or ventilator.

The flow of extracted air from the smoking room shall be at least 30 cubic decimetres per second per square metre of floor. However, the flow through the door opening shall be at least 180 cubic decimetres per second per square metre of the opening. The ventilator must be positioned in such a way that the air is extracted efficiently from all parts of the smoking room.

The extracted air shall be led via a separate channel to a point above the roof of the structure.

Section 3

Monitoring

It shall be possible to monitor the smoking room from outside.

The smoking room or extraction channel shall be fitted with a fixed measuring device so that the extraction flow from the room can be monitored from outside the room.

The ventilation of the smoking room shall be checked regularly and the findings recorded.

Section 4

Maintenance

A plan shall be drawn up for the use and maintenance of the smoking room. The plan shall show clearly the values planned, the points which need to be inspected and maintained, and how frequently maintenance is required. The plan shall also include a self-monitoring plan and a use and maintenance guide.

Section 5

Entry into force

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 June 2007

The provisions of Section 2(3) shall not apply to restaurants which were built prior to the entry into force of this Regulation.

The measures necessary to implement this Regulation may be launched prior to the date of its entry into force.

Helsinki, 3 November 2006

Liisa Hyässälä, Minister of Health and Social Services,

Liisa Katajamäki, Ministerial Secretary