

CBS New York

New Legislation Takes Aim at Smoking At New Jersey Beaches

April 25, 2014

Lawmakers are looking to extend bans on smoking to the beach.

State Assemblywoman Valerie Huttie told WCBS 880's Levon Putney beachgoers should not have to sit next to smokers when they return to the Jersey Shore this summer.

"And when they're smoking, you really do inhale the second-hand smoke on the beaches. And the same thing when you're walking barefoot on the sand, you're certainly walking on the cigarette butts," Huttie said.

"And so, we prefer that people don't smoke at the beaches because it's an unhealthful environment and it hurts the people as well," said anti-smoking advocate Karen Blumenfeld. Blumenfeld is not for designated smoking areas either, Putney reported.

The state Assembly passed a bill banning smoking at public beaches, which is now in the hands of the Senate, Putney reported.

The measure might reach Gov. Chris Christie's desk by June.

<http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2014/04/25/new-legislation-takes-aim-at-smoking-at-nj-beaches/>