



performing for you  
yn perfformio trostoch chi

Committee Clerk  
Smoke-free Premises etc. (Amendment) Regulations Sub-Committees,  
Committee Service  
National Assembly for Wales  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

### **The Smoke-free Premises etc. (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2012**

Equity is the UK based trade union for performers and other creative workers, representing over 36,500 people working across the entertainment industry and over 5,000 student members. As well as actors, dancers, singers, stage managers, theatre directors and designers, variety and stunt performers, Equity represents fashion and photographic models. In Wales Equity represents over 1,500 of whom about 450 are Welsh Speakers.

It is Equity policy to support a ban on smoking in all places where our members work, although we supported the narrow exemptions in England and Scotland to allow smoking by performers in theatre, film and TV production where smoking is integral to the performance.

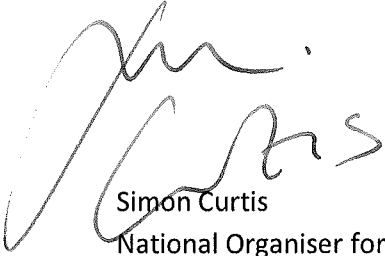
To that end we support the narrow amendment to allow smoking by performers in the television and film industry where smoking is integral to the performance and cannot be replicated by the use of cigarette alternatives. As we have in England and Scotland we would also support a narrow exemption on the same terms for theatre production if that were to be included.

We believe that this proposed amendment will provide an even playing field across the UK and allow Television and Film producers wishing to base their production in Wales, and provide work for our members and investment into the country, the ability to do so without any restrictions.

Equity continues to support the smoke-free provisions of the regulations, and welcomes the Assembly's recognition of the unique nature of performers within the regulations.

We have already taken up the opportunity to be available for the evidence sessions on the 29<sup>th</sup> January 2013 and will be happy to discuss any details of our submission at that time. If you have any further questions or comments regarding Equity's response please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Curtis', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Simon Curtis  
National Organiser for Wales

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