

RESOLUTION

TOBACCO USE REQUIRES A UNIFIED SOLUTION

WHEREAS: Every year, more than 14,500¹ Michigan citizens die horrible but preventable deaths caused by tobacco addiction, due to both smoking, secondhand smoke exposure and other forms of tobacco use, and thousands more suffer from tobacco-caused disability and disease;

WHEREAS: Michiganders who are poor, disadvantaged, under-educated, under-insured and ethnic minorities are disproportionately targeted by the tobacco industry, and suffer disproportionately from the health risks of tobacco, requiring that the tobacco dependence issue be addressed not only as a rightful public health priority but also as an important social justice priority.

WHEREAS: 106,500 (18.8%)² high-school aged youth in Michigan are current smokers; and another 17,200³ Michigan children become addicted smokers every year; in addition nearly 10.6%⁴ of high school youth use spit or smokeless tobacco;

WHEREAS: Over 60%⁵ of Michigan children under age 11 are disproportionately exposed to involuntary secondhand smoke in homes, which increases the incidence of asthma, ear infections, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and other conditions caused by and associated with secondhand smoke exposure;

WHEREAS: Michigan's health care expenditures caused by tobacco use total over \$3.4⁶ billion each year, including more than \$1.1⁷ billion in annual tobacco-caused expenditures by the State Medicaid program;

WHEREAS: Michigan will receive approximately \$1.2 billion (FY12) in revenues from excise taxes and sales taxes on tobacco products and from payments from the Master Settlement Agreement; yet only \$1.8 million of tax revenues are allocated to tobacco prevention and reduction. Furthermore, none of the annual payments from the Master Settlement Agreement are dedicated to tobacco prevention. By contrast, the US Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta recommend an annual investment of \$121M (or 10% of current revenues) to effectively address Michigan's tobacco burden.⁸

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the undersigned, [name of Organization or body] pledges to be part of the tobacco use Solution, by endorsing comprehensive and effective public policy measures recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other experts to prevent and reduce smoking and other tobacco use in the state particularly among poor and vulnerable populations, especially children and pregnant women. These include:

- * Increase and sustain robust tobacco prevention funding to expand infrastructure and capacity that reduce teen tobacco use, fully fund tobacco treatment programs, and support related public health initiatives (chronic disease prevention programs, Medicaid, etc.)
- * Prohibit smoking in all workplaces*, including all restaurants and bars **★ACHIEVED!★**
* A few workplaces are exempted from the new smoke-free air law: two non-Native casinos, cigar bars, and tobacco specialty stores
- * Promote 24/7 tobacco-free policies in all MI schools and in all state and local parks and beaches.
- * Ensure that no state government preemption of local efforts to prevent and reduce tobacco use or its harms.
- * Promote improved data collection and evaluation methods to better identify disparate effects of tobacco on specific population groups

Name of Organization _____ Number of Members _____

Contact Person _____

Address, City, State, Zip _____

Phone, Fax, E-mail _____

Please return to: [INSERT YOUR (or your agency's) CONTACT INFORMATION]

¹ <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0176.pdf> Accessed January 26, 2012.

² <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0176.pdf> Accessed January 26, 2012.

³ <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0176.pdf> Accessed January 26, 2012.

⁴ CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly. Vol. 59. June 4, 2010.

⁵ "Tobacco Smoke Exposure in Children Who Live in Multiunit Housing," Pediatrics. Vol. 127, No. 1, January 2011. p. 86.

⁶ <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0178.pdf> Accessed January 26, 2012.

⁷ <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0178.pdf> Accessed January 26, 2012.

⁸ American Lung Association. "State of Tobacco Control 2012." Accessed January 23, 2012.