

# Georgia Alliance for Tobacco Prevention

(formerly CHARGE)

## Resolution to Reduce Tobacco Use in Georgia (adopted 4/19/02, revised 9/20/02)

WHEREAS, an estimated **23,000** Georgia youth under age 18 become daily smokers each year. About **10,000** Georgians die every year from tobacco use; and almost **187,000** of today's Georgia children will grow up but die prematurely of tobacco related causes;

WHEREAS, Georgia's annual health care expenditures due to tobacco use are **\$1.75** billion with Medicaid's portion consuming **\$419** million; and lost productivity in Georgia due to smoking related deaths is estimated at **\$2.73** billion;

WHEREAS, preventing and reducing smoking and other tobacco use among teenagers and other children requires a strong commitment from a broad, diverse range of organizations and individuals concerned about our nation's youth and public health;

WHEREAS, one of the most effective ways to reduce smoking and other tobacco use, particularly among adolescents, is to raise the price of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco through tax increases;

WHEREAS, raising state tobacco taxes always reduces tobacco use and always increases state revenues; and,

WHEREAS, an effort to raise state tobacco taxes is an effective way to expand and diversify state coalitions to prevent and reduce tobacco use.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the undersigned organization joins the Georgia Alliance for Tobacco Prevention, the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association and Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids and others to work to reduce tobacco use, especially in Georgia and especially among teens, through various measures including:

- **An increase in the state user fee on cigarettes; and**
- **An extension of additional state user fees to other tobacco products.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the undersigned organization urges its affiliates, partners and members to take an active role in state coalitions to prevent and reduce smoking and other tobacco use, especially among teens, and to support such related measures as increasing state tobacco taxes; and the undersigned organization will:

- **Inform its members and the general public of its endorsements of this Resolution.**
- **Inform the Governor and members of the General Assembly of its endorsement of this Resolution, to the extent permitted by law, and urge its members to do the same.**

Name of Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Number Members \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: Georgia Alliance for Tobacco Prevention, 2452 Spring Rd., Smyrna, GA 30080 or fax to 770—319-0349 Call 770-437-9950 with questions. Resolution online: [www.gatobaccoprevention.org](http://www.gatobaccoprevention.org).