

# Iowa's Health Initiative

WHEREAS, Every year over 7,900 Iowa children become addicted to tobacco of whom more than 53,000 will die prematurely because of this addiction; and,

WHEREAS, 23% of adults in Iowa smoke and nearly 5,000 Iowans will die from smoking; and,

WHEREAS, the annual health care expenditures in Iowa directly related to tobacco use is \$617 million; and,

WHEREAS, The Iowa government Medicaid payments directly related to tobacco use is \$79 million; and,

WHEREAS, Tobacco cost each Iowan approximately \$200 in State tax (dollars) every year;

WHEREAS, Increasing the State's excise tax on cigarettes by \$1.00 per pack and extending the tax to other tobacco products would, by itself, greatly decrease the number of children who become addicted to tobacco and would provide at least \$250 million per year in additional State revenue.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, That the undersigned organization endorses the Iowa Health Initiative, which will:

- Improve the health of Iowans by decreasing the number of tobacco users and the incidence of tobacco related death and disease;
- Reduce tobacco use by Iowa's youth and strengthen the state tobacco use prevention and control program; and
- To create additional revenue to support health care programs and services;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the undersigned organization will:

- Inform its members and, if possible, the general public of its endorsement of this Resolution; and,
- 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 so also.

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

Please return American Cancer Society, 8364 Hickman Rd., Ste. D, Des  
to: Moines, IA 50325 or fax to (515) 253-0806. Call (515) 253-  
0147 or 1-800-688-0147 for more information.

**Iowa's Health Initiative is a coalition working  
to improve the health of all Iowans by reducing  
tobacco use and health care expenditures.**