

Logos: AHA, ACS, CTFK, ALA

RESOLUTION TO REDUCE TOBACCO USE IN WYOMING.

WHEREAS, Wyoming spends \$106 million per year in direct medical expenses due to tobacco use, and loses another \$138 million in lost productivity,ⁱ

WHEREAS, Every year in Wyoming, 1,400 kids, under the age of 18, become daily smokers,ⁱⁱ

WHEREAS, 12,900 Wyoming children alive today will ultimately die from tobacco use,ⁱⁱⁱ

WHEREAS, Wyoming has the highest number of kids under the age of 18 who use spit tobacco in the nation,^{iv}

WHEREAS, more than 700 people die every year in Wyoming from tobacco use and another 60 to 120 die from second hand smoke,^v a

WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, the most effective ways to reduce smoking, particularly among adolescents, are to initiate an adequately funded comprehensive statewide tobacco prevention program and to raise the price of cigarettes, smokeless tobacco and other tobacco products through tax increases,^{vi}

WHEREAS, Wyoming's current cigarette tax rate is only 12 cents per pack, the 46th lowest excise tax in the nation,^{vii} and

WHEREAS, Increasing the tax by 60 cents would stop more than 4,900 Wyoming kids alive today from smoking, increase state revenues, reduce smoking-caused costs, and produce numerous additional benefits,^{viii}

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, That the undersigned organization joins Wyoming Tobacco Use Prevention and the American Heart Association, American Cancer Society, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids and the American Lung Association of the Northern Rockies in urging Wyoming to work to reduce tobacco use, especially among teens, by actions such as adequately funding statewide tobacco prevention efforts and substantially increasing the state's excise tax on cigarettes, smokeless tobacco and other tobacco products.

Name of Organization/Business/Individual: _____

No. of Members if applicable: _____

Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name of Contact Person: _____ Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail _____

Please return to Wyoming Tobacco Use Prevention, 330 S. Center St., Ste 405, Casper, WY 82601 or fax to 307-232-8247. Call 1-800-798-3775 with questions.

ⁱ **Smoking-Caused Healthcare Costs.** CDC, "Annual Smoking-Attributable Mortality, Years of Potential Life Lost, and Economic Costs -- United States 1995-1999," *MMWR*, April 11, 2002, www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5114a2.htm. Miller, L., et al., "State Estimates of Total Medical Expenditures Attributable to Cigarette Smoking, 1993," *Public Health Reports* 113: 447-58, Sept./Oct. 1998; Zhan, X., et al., "Cost of Smoking to the Medicare Program, 1993," *Health Care Financing Review* 20(4): 1-19, Summer 1999. For non-healthcare smoking-caused costs, which total more than \$50 billion per year, see, e.g., U.S. Department of the Treasury, *The Economic Costs of Smoking in the U.S. and the Benefits of Comprehensive Tobacco Legislation*, 1998); Chaloupka, F.J. & K.E. Warner, "The Economics of Smoking," in Culyer, A. & J. Newhouse (eds), *The Handbook of Health Economics*, 2000. Cost per pack based on cost data divided by taxable pack sales in each state, from Orzechowski & Walker, *Tax Burden on Tobacco*, 2002. *State Cigarette Tax Revenue*. Orzechowski & Walker, *Tax Burden on tobacco*, 2002.

ⁱⁱ **Smoking and smokeless rates, deaths, and other state tobacco-related information.** U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), *State Highlights 2002: Impact and Opportunity, April 2002*; CDC's state-specific [website pages](#); National Cancer Institute, *Health effects of exposure to environmental tobacco smoke: the report of the California Environmental Protection Agency*, Smoking and Tobacco Control Monograph no. 10, NIH publication no. 99-4645, 1999 [see also, [CA EPA](#)]. New underage daily smoker estimate based on data from U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services (HHS), "[Summary Findings from the 2000 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse](#)," 2001, with the state share of national initiation number based on CDC data on future youth smokers in each state compared to national total. **Kids exposed to second hand smoke.** CDC, "State-Specific Prevalence of Cigarette Smoking Among Adults, and Children's and Adolescents' Exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke - United States, 1996," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)* 46(44): 1038-1043, November 7, 1997.

ⁱⁱⁱ Id.

^{iv} Id.

^v Id.

^{vi} Centers for Disease Control. "Most studies indicate that a 10% increase in price will reduce overall cigarette consumption by 3% to 5%.... Increases in cigarette excise taxes are an effective tool in deterring smoking initiation among youth, prompting smoking cessation among adults, and reducing the average cigarette consumption among continuing smokers..... Youth, minorities, and low-income smokers are two to three times more likely to quit or smoke less than other smokers in response to price increases." www.cdc.gov/tobacco/sqr/sqr_2000/factsheets_taxation.html.

^{vii} Orzechowski & Walker, *Tax Burden on Tobacco*, 2002; media reports; Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, *Tobacco Briefing Room Website*, <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Briefing/tobacco>.

^{viii} Projections of fewer youth smokers based on a 65 cent increase: Centers for Disease Control, for every 10% increase in cigarette prices youth smoking rates decline by 6.5%. Questions may be directed to Eric Lindblom, Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, elindblom@tobaccofreekids.org or 202-296-5469.