

# VIRGINIANS FOR A HEALTHY FUTURE

## Resolution to Reduce Youth Tobacco Use & Improve the Health, Education & Welfare of Virginians

WHEREAS, Tobacco-related disease is the number one cause of death to Virginians totaling over 9,100 deaths annually, killing more people than AIDS, alcohol, car accidents, fires, illegal drugs, murders, and suicides combined; and

WHEREAS, Secondhand smoke is the third leading cause of preventable death in this country, killing more than 53,000 nonsmokers in the U.S. each year and approximately 1,700 in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has classified secondhand smoke as a Group A (Human) Carcinogen—a substance known to cause cancer in humans. There is no safe level of exposure for Group A toxins; and

WHEREAS, Secondhand smoke includes both smoke exhaled and smoke from the burning end of a tobacco or herbal cigarette, cigar, or pipe; and includes a mixture of over 4,000 chemicals and 50 carcinogens including formaldehyde, cyanide, arsenic, carbon monoxide, methane, benzene; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has determined that an increased risk of acute myocardial infarction and coronary heart disease is associated with exposure to secondhand smoke and warned those with heart disease to avoid all indoor environments that permit smoking. Even after a half hour of exposure to secondhand smoke, nonsmokers' heart arteries showed a reduced ability to dilate, diminishing the ability of the heart to get life-giving blood; and

WHEREAS, Secondhand smoke is a risk factor for respiratory disease causing up to 1 million asthma attacks per year, 300,000 ear infections in children, 2,500 cases of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, negative effects on the fetus, and many additional negative health effects for young children including bronchitis and pneumonia; and

WHEREAS; Designated smoking sections do not eliminate nonsmokers exposure to secondhand smoke nor protect the employees of these establishments; and

WHEREAS, Clean indoor air regulations are public health issues.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the undersigned organization endorses:

- The enactment of Comprehensive Clean Indoor Air legislation that will restrict smoking in all public indoor environments; thereby, protecting all Virginians from further health risks.

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 Legislature of its endorsement of this Resolution, to the extent permitted by law, and urge its constituency to work for clean indoor air.

Signed on \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

(date)

(authorized signature)

*more...*

# Virginians For A Healthy Future

## Membership Form

Mission: *To improve the health, education and welfare of Virginia's children, families, and communities by reducing the use of tobacco products in Virginia.*

Name of Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Web Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Members, if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Membership Dues\* \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In-Kind Resources: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Resources: \_\_\_\_\_

### **\*Suggested Annual Membership Fee**

If your budget is over \$2 million--	\$ 5,000 _____
If your budget is over \$1 million--	\$ 2,500 _____
If your budget is between \$500,000 and \$1 million--	\$ 1,000 _____
If your budget is between \$250,000 and \$500,000--	\$ 500 _____
If your budget is between \$100,000 and \$250,000--	\$ 200 _____
If your budget is between \$50,000 and \$99,000--	\$ 100 _____
If your budget is less than \$50,000--	\$ 50 _____
Individual	\$ 25 _____

Contributions of more than the recommended minimum are welcome and encouraged!  
Please make checks payable to "Virginians For A Healthy Future"

\_\_\_\_ Please check here if you would like to be invoiced for your contribution and fax to (804) 643-5927.

Please complete and return to: **Virginians For A Healthy Future, 1001 East Broad Street, Suite 225, Richmond, Virginia 23219.** Fax: (804) 643-5927 or e-mail to: [info@healthyva.org](mailto:info@healthyva.org)