



Resolution to Support a Fully Funded Tobacco Control Program
Adopted by Tobacco Free North Dakota Board of Directors on October 2, 2020

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends North Dakota spends \$9.8 million per year for a tobacco control programⁱ; and

Whereas North Dakota currently spends \$6.45 million per year for its tobacco control program (Sixty-sixth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota- HOUSE BILL NO. 1004, Tobacco Prevention Appropriation: 12,902,064 2019-2021 Biennium); and

Whereas North Dakota's program is responsible for offering tobacco cessation counseling and services to nearly 16,000 adults last year; and

Whereas having a robust media campaign has a direct effect on decreasing tobacco usage rates, increasing utilization and awareness of cessation services, and decreased youth initiation ratesⁱⁱ; and

Whereas an economic review shows media campaigns can have a return on invest as high as \$74:1, costing about \$213 to save one lifeⁱⁱⁱ; and

Whereas states that make larger investments into tobacco control programs see a reduction in tobacco sales^{iv}; and

Whereas 75 percent of North Dakota adults believe tobacco use in youth is a moderate or serious problem^v; and

Whereas nearly 9 in 10 people that smoke started before the age of 18^{vi}; and

Whereas 35.5% of high school students (grades 9-12) in North Dakota use tobacco products including cigarettes, cigars, electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) or other smokeless products^{vii}, of whom many will develop a lifelong addiction to nicotine/tobacco products^{viii}; and

Whereas tobacco use in North Dakota imposes economic burden, with direct healthcare costs amounting to \$326 million each year, productivity losses approximating \$232.6 million annually, and each household paying \$730 per year in state and federal taxes from smoking-caused government expenditures^{ix}; and

Whereas this resolution addresses commercial tobacco, which is different from traditional tobacco used in American Indian spiritual and ceremonial practices; and

Whereas the Tobacco Industry spends \$38.2 million each year marketing in ND; and

Whereas the Surgeon General has concluded there is no risk-free level of exposure of secondhand smoke or vapor and that tobacco-free workplace policies are the only way to eliminate secondhand exposure; and

Whereas individuals living in communities with comprehensive smoke-free policies are 22 percent less likely to be hospitalized for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) compared to individuals living in communities without strong smoke-free policies;

Now therefore be it resolved, _____ supports funding a comprehensive tobacco control program at the CDC recommended levels to reduce the prevalence of tobacco use in North Dakota. Further, _____ supports using money from the Master Settlement Agreement, tobacco taxes and any other relevant sources to fund the program.

Name of Organization Representative

Signature of Organization Representative

Date

ⁱ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2014). *Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programs*. Atlanta: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

ⁱⁱ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2017). *Tobacco Control Interventions*. Atlanta: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (<https://www.cdc.gov/policy/hst/hi5/tobaccointerventions/index.html>)

ⁱⁱⁱ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2017). *Tobacco Control Interventions*. Atlanta: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (<https://www.cdc.gov/policy/hst/hi5/tobaccointerventions/index.html>)

^{iv} Office of the Surgeon General. (2014). *The Health Consequences of Smoking: 50 Years of Progress*. Rockville, MD: Office of the Surgeon General.

^v (<https://prevention.nd.gov/sites/default/files/North%20Dakota%20Community%20Readiness%20Report%202019.pdf>)

^{vi} Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. 2018 National Survey on Drug Use And Health: Detailed Tables external icon. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Data

^{vii} *North Dakota 2019 High School (Grades 9-12) YRBS Results*. (2019). Bismarck, ND: ND Department of Public Instruction.

^{viii} (https://www.health.nd.gov/sites/www/files/documents/Files/OSE/YRBS/2019_NDHS_Statewide_REA_Regions.pdf)

^{ix} Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids. (2020). *The Toll of Tobacco in North Dakota*. Washington, D.C.: Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids.