



Resolution to Support a Fully Funded Tobacco Control Program

Adopted by Tobacco Free North Dakota Board of Directors on June 16, 2022

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

Whereas North Dakota currently spends \$6.7 million per year for its tobacco control program; and

Whereas North Dakota's General Fund earned \$49.93 million in tobacco tax collections from 2019-2021, as well as \$65 million as part of the Master Settlement Agreement during the same timeframe; and

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

Whereas an estimated 14,000 North Dakota kids currently under 18 will die prematurely from tobacco related causes; and

Whereas states that make larger investments into tobacco control programs see a reduction in tobacco sales; 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 rates; and

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

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

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

Whereas 23% of high school students (grades 9-12) in the 2021 North Dakota Youth Risk Behavior Survey used tobacco products including cigarettes, cigars, electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) or other smokeless products in the past 30 days, of whom many will develop a lifelong addiction to nicotine/tobacco products; 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 \$916 per year in state and federal taxes from smoking-caused government expenditures; and

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

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention advocates for a multi-tiered approach to tobacco control, including increasing tobacco taxes, fully funding a tobacco control program and maintaining a strong indoor smoke-free air law;

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

Sources:

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2014). *Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programs*.
2. https://www.health.nd.gov/sites/www/files/documents/Files/OSE/YRBS/2021ND-High-School_YRBS-Summary-Tables.pdf
3. https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2018/18_0051.htm
4. Office of the Surgeon General. (2014). *The Health Consequences of Smoking: 50 Years of Progress*
5. <https://prevention.nd.gov/sites/default/files/North%20Dakota%20Community%20Readiness%20Report%202019.pdf>
6. <https://www.cdc.gov/policy/hst/hi5/tobacointerventions/index.html>
7. https://www.health.nd.gov/sites/www/files/documents/Files/OSE/YRBS/2019_NDHS_Statewide_REA_Regions.pdf
8. https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/problem/toll-us/north_dakota
9. <https://www.tax.nd.gov/sites/www/files/documents/news-center/publications/55th-biennial-report.pdf>
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