



SMOKE FREE ILLINOIS



RESOLUTION TO ELIMINATE SECONDHAND SMOKE IN ALL PUBLIC PLACES

WHEREAS, the U.S. Surgeon General's 2006 report has determined that **there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke**; the scientific evidence that secondhand smoke causes serious diseases, including lung cancer, heart disease, and respiratory illnesses such as bronchitis and asthma, is **massive and conclusive**; separating smokers from nonsmokers, cleaning the air, and ventilating buildings cannot eliminate secondhand smoke exposure; smoke-free workplace policies are effective in reducing secondhand smoke exposure; smoke-free workplace policies do not have an adverse economic impact on the hospitality industry; and

WHEREAS, secondhand smoke, which contains 4,000 chemicals, 69 of which cause cancer, is the third leading cause of preventable death in the United States, and the National Cancer Institute determined in 2000 (Monograph #10) that secondhand smoke is responsible for the deaths of as many as 65,000 Americans annually; and

WHEREAS, the adverse health effects of secondhand smoke are recognized by numerous medical and scientific authorities, including the American Medical Association, the U.S. Surgeon General, the National Institute on Occupational Safety and Health, the National Cancer Institute, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Academy of Sciences, the National Toxicology Program, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, and the World Health Organization; and

WHEREAS, employees in smoke-filled workplaces are at increased risk. One study has estimated that working in a smoke-filled bar for eight hours is equivalent to smoking 16 cigarettes; and

WHEREAS, others at increased risk include children, elderly people, and those with cardiovascular disease or impaired respiratory function, including people with asthma and those with obstructive airway disease; and

WHEREAS, American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) acknowledges that the **ventilation technology** that can remove the chemicals from the air that cause cancer **does not exist**; and

WHEREAS, the states of California, Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Massachusetts, Montana, Rhode Island, New York, Colorado, New Jersey, Washington, Hawaii, Utah, Vermont and the Nation's Capitol, Washington D.C., have adopted laws that provide for smoke-free workplaces including but not limited to bars, restaurants, and other public places, as have the nations of Ireland, Italy, Scotland, England, New Zealand and Norway; and

WHEREAS, credible independent economic studies show that the elimination of smoking in workplaces and public places, including restaurants and bars, does not harm a community's economy or result in a net loss of jobs in restaurants and bars. These studies are drawn from the experience of communities that have eliminated smoking in workplaces and public places; and

WHEREAS, workers have the right to breathe clean indoor air and to work in a safe environment which their employers provide.

Be it therefore resolved, that the undersigned organization supports and endorses Smoke Free Illinois, which will work to:

- ◆ Protect the public health and welfare by prohibiting smoking in public places and places of employment.
- ◆ Guarantee the right of nonsmokers to breathe smoke-free indoor air.

Be it therefore resolved, that the undersigned organization will:

- ◆ Inform its employees, members and the general public of its endorsement of this Resolution.
- ◆ Contact elected officials on this issue and urge its employees and members to do the same.
- ◆ Support comprehensive statewide and local community smoke-free regulations.

Name/Organization _____

Contact Person _____ Title _____

Street Address _____ Email Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____

Authorized Organization Representative printed Name & Title _____

Authorized Organization Signature _____ Date _____