

Resolution No. 5-0207

Smoke-Free Worksite Resolution

Support legislation that creates smoke-free workplaces; however, state legislation must preserve the right of local levels of government to adopt more restrictive measures to protect citizens from secondhand smoke.

WHEREAS, secondhand smoke is a Class A carcinogen containing over 4,000 chemicals, 200 of which are known poisons and 69 of which are known to kill more than 1200 Wisconsinites every year from heart disease and lung cancer; and¹

WHEREAS, Employees should not be forced to risk their health through exposure to dangerous and deadly toxins in their workplace; and

WHEREAS, The Surgeon General's 2006 report *The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke* concludes exposure to secondhand smoke has immediate adverse effects on the cardiovascular system and causes coronary heart disease and lung cancer; and

WHEREAS, The most effective way to protect employees and public health from the hazards of secondhand smoke is to completely eliminate secondhand smoke by creating smoke-free environments; and

WHEREAS, The Surgeon General 2006 report *The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke* declares there is no safe level of exposure to tobacco smoke; and

WHEREAS, The Surgeon General's 2006 report also concluded that establishing smoke-free workplace policies does not have an adverse economic impact and is the only way to ensure that secondhand smoke exposure does not occur in the workplace; and

WHEREAS, The local governments are directly responsible for protecting the public health and safety of Wisconsin's citizens; and

WHEREAS, Legislation has been proposed in the Wisconsin Legislature would preempt local government from having authority to regulate secondhand smoke; and

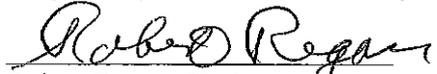
WHEREAS, That preemption runs counter to standard legislative practice of setting minimum standards that local governments may exceed; and

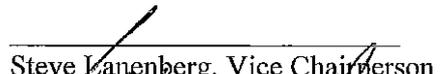
WHEREAS, The state legislature should not act to deprive local governments of the authority to protect people from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke.

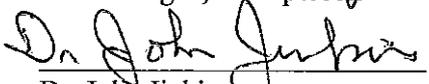
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Iowa County Board of Supervisors does hereby encourage the Wisconsin Legislature and local policymakers to strengthen laws to protect workers and the public from the known health dangers in secondhand smoke by adopting legislation that creates comprehensive 100% smoke-free workplaces; and

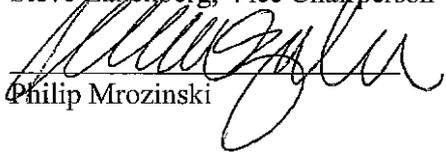
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any state legislation or regulation must preserve the right of local levels of government to adopt more restrictive measures to protect citizens from secondhand smoke.

Respectfully submitted on January 4, 2007:


Robert Regan, Chairperson


Steve Lanenberg, Vice Chairperson


Dr. John Jenkins


Philip Mrozinski

Thomas Mueller

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