



RESOLUTION 2007-8

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF STATEWIDE LEGISLATION PROTECTING KIDS, WORKERS, AND PEOPLE WITH BREATHING PROBLEMS BY ELIMINATING SMOKING IN WORKPLACES – INCLUDING RESTAURANTS, BARS, OFFICES, AND OTHER INDOOR PUBLIC PLACES.

WHEREAS, the United States Surgeon General has declared that there is NO safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke, which remains a leading cause of preventable death in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has warned that all patients at increased risk of coronary heart disease or with known coronary artery disease should avoid any indoor environments in which smoking occurs; and

WHEREAS, Nonsmokers who are exposed to secondhand smoke increase their risk of developing heart disease by 25-30%; and

WHEREAS, Children who breath secondhand smoke are more likely to suffer from serious and a costly illnesses including pneumonia, bronchitis, asthma, and middle-ear infections; and

WHEREAS, Employees such as waiters, waitresses, and bartenders who have exposure to second hand smoke on a daily basis are twice as likely to fall victim to a heart attack and are nearly twice as likely to develop lung cancer due to involuntary exposure to secondhand smoke; and

WHEREAS, Secondhand smoke can trigger serious adult breathing problems including asthma and allergies and make it dangerous for persons with breathing problems to access indoor places where smoking is permitted; and

WHEREAS, the United States Surgeon General has declared the only effective way to prevent secondhand smoke exposure for workers indoors is to provide completely smoke-free workplace environments;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the County of Torrance joins the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, and New Mexicans Concerned About Tobacco in supporting a strong statewide law that protects kids, workers, and people with breathing problems from secondhand smoke in public places and workplaces, including restaurants and bars, and which does not preempt local communities from adopting local policies expanding statewide secondhand smoke protections.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of January, 2007.

TORRANCE COUNTY COMMISSION

Jim Frost, District 1

Paul M. (Tito) Chavez, District 2

LeRoy M. Candelaria, District 3

