

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

Endorsing Funding of the Multnomah)	RESOLUTION
County Tobacco Prevention)	97- 197
and Education Program)	

WHEREAS, nationally, three thousand teens start smoking every day; and

WHEREAS, FDA Commissioner Kessler recently declared that teen smoking has reached epidemic levels; and

WHEREAS, rates of smoking among children in Oregon are increasing, according to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, every 30 seconds a child in Oregon smokes for the first time, and one-third of these new smokers will eventually die of tobacco-related diseases; and

WHEREAS, citizens in local communities believe they should have the power to protect children from tobacco; and

WHEREAS, Multnomah County Health Department, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, Medical Society of Metropolitan Portland, Multnomah County Community and Family Services, Multnomah County Dental Services, Portland Public Schools Prevention Program, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, Providence Health Systems, Multnomah County Community Health Council, and many other citizens and community groups are seriously concerned about the health hazards of smoking and the use of tobacco by children; now therefore

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Multnomah County Health Department shall utilize Ballot Measure 44 funds soon to be allocated to Multnomah County to commence a comprehensive plan for tobacco control in our community. The Multnomah County Tobacco Prevention and Education Program will focus on four targeted areas which have been extensively researched by the Multnomah County Health Department with the assistance and input of the above mentioned community organizations. The following areas are deemed to be of most immediate concern in the community and will be the focus of this program:


- 1) **Reducing Youth Access**
- 2) **Creating Tobacco Free Environments**
- 3) **Decreasing Tobacco Advertising**
- 4) **Promoting Linkage to Cessation**

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Multnomah County Health Department, in conjunction with the Multnomah County Tobacco Prevention Coalition and other community partnerships will continue to work together to oversee these efforts to assure the goals of the Tobacco Prevention and Education Program are being met in the years ahead. Because this program has the capacity to give measurable results indicating a decrease or increase in underage smoking over the next several years, the Multnomah County Health Department will be able to assess the success of the program and determine whether the need for an ordinance restricting underage access to tobacco in the form of a tobacco licensing fee would be necessary in the future.

ADOPTED this 13th day of November, 1997



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON



Beverly Stein, Chair
Multnomah County, Oregon

REVIEWED:

THOMAS SPONSLER, COUNTY COUNSEL
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

by 

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