

North Carolina Advisory Committee on Cancer Coordination and Control

**Resolution in Support of North Carolina
Hospitals and Medical Centers Passing
Policy to Make all Buildings and Grounds
100% Tobacco-Free Campus Wide**

WHEREAS, the use of tobacco products is the leading cause of preventable cancer deaths in North Carolina,

WHEREAS, second hand smoke costs the U.S. economy \$10 billion annually; \$784 million per year is attributed to lung and cervical cancer as a result of second hand smoke exposure,

WHEREAS, second hand smoke is classified as a Class A carcinogen by the Environmental Protection Agency indicating that it has been shown to cause cancer in humans,

WHEREAS, there is no safe level of second hand smoke exposure,

WHEREAS, second hand smoke has been estimated to cause 3000 deaths per year from lung cancer and 30,000 deaths per year from heart disease among nonsmokers in the United States, and 81 deaths from lung cancer and up to 1674 deaths from heart disease per year in North Carolina,

WHEREAS, second hand smoke has been implicated in the occurrence of acute heart attacks among those exposed to it,

WHEREAS, second hand smoke has been shown to cause numerous adverse health effects among children including increased lung infections, incidence of asthma and sudden infant death syndrome, and decreased lung growth rate and lung function,

WHEREAS, spit tobacco is not a safe alternative to smoking,

WHEREAS, the leading motivation for cessation attempts by tobacco users is a worksite tobacco use ban,

WHEREAS, worksite tobacco use bans result in up to a 29% decrease in tobacco consumption,

WHEREAS, up to 36% of employee cessation has been attributed to a hospital tobacco-free policy,

WHEREAS, evidence-based cessation resources are available for those who want to quit using tobacco, such as cessation medications and the free NC Tobacco Use Quitline, a proactive telephone service staffed by trained cessation coaches,

WHEREAS, hospitals and medical centers are seen as health leaders and role models in our communities,

Be It Therefore Resolved That the North Carolina Advisory Committee for Cancer Coordination and Control supports all North Carolina hospitals and medical centers adopting 100% tobacco-free campus policies, all such facilities providing evidence-based tobacco use cessation services (cessation counseling and medications) to employees, and North Carolina hospitals and medical centers promoting tobacco-free environments as a social norm.

ADOPTED: July 28, 2006