

A Resolution to Support Smoke-Free Homes in the City of Boston

WHEREAS secondhand smoke is classified as a class A carcinogen by the United States Environmental Protection Agency; and,

WHEREAS secondhand smoke is particularly harmful to children, causing and exacerbating asthma, upper respiratory infections and ear infections; and,

WHEREAS secondhand smoke negatively impacts the health of non-smoking adults;

WHEREAS there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke and the removal of secondhand smoke from all homes is recommended by both the 2006 United States Surgeon General's Report, entitled *The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke*, and the 2007 World Health Organization's 2007 *Policy Recommendations on Protection from Exposure from Secondhand Smoke*; and,

WHEREAS smoking is the number-one cause of home fire deaths; and,

WHEREAS 25% of people killed in smoking related fires are not the actual smokers themselves; 34% of these victims were the children of the smokers; and 25% were neighbors or friends of the smokers, according to the United States Fire Administration; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the BPHC supports efforts of advocates to educate the Boston community on the need for smoke-free public and private housing, to protect the health and safety of all residents; and,

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that BPHC pledges to protect Boston homeowners and tenants from health and safety risks of secondhand smoke by:

- Educating the public about the health and safety risks of secondhand smoke and smoking in homes;
- Providing information and support resources to smokers who desire to quit;
- Encouraging all parents, guardians, and caretakers to provide smoke-free homes, particularly for those most vulnerable to secondhand smoke, including children, the elderly, and persons with disabilities;
- Encouraging property owners to create smoke free options for tenants and to establish smoke-free policies for their buildings;
- Working with new green housing developers to establish smoke-free housing in these developments from the initiation of development of these sites;
- Providing information, resources, and support to landlords and property owners that wish to adopt smoke-free policies for their buildings and properties; and,
- Supporting landlords and property owners as well as prospective tenants and purchasers to advertise and locate smoke-free homes through the City of Boston's Smoke-Free Homes Registry (www.BostonSmokeFreeHomes.org).

BE IT LASTLY RESOLVED that we the undersigned, the BPHC, city and state governmental agencies, housing operators, tenant organizations, health care institutions, public health agencies and legal advocates, as well as other interested stakeholders within Boston, pledge to work toward increasing the

supply of smoke-free homes in Boston and will continue to work with interested parties to meet the resolution's objectives.

Agency name:	
Address:	
Authorized endorser's name & title:	
Email contact:	Phone number:
Date of endorsement:	