

Employee Petition

WHEREAS, local governments now have clear authority under G.S. 130A-498 to restrict smoking in buildings owned, leased as lessor, or the area leased as lessee and occupied by local government; buildings and grounds wherein local health departments and departments of social services are housed; and any place on a public transportation vehicle owned or leased by local government and used by the public, and

WHEREAS, secondhand smoke is a leading cause of preventable death in the United States, causing the deaths of about 35,000 Americans per year and an estimated 1,220 to 2,180 North Carolina adults, children and babies ; and

WHEREAS, secondhand smoke has been proven to cause cancer, heart disease, and asthma in both smokers and nonsmokers, and

WHEREAS, the 2006 Surgeon General's Report on the health consequences of involuntary exposure to tobacco smoke states that the scientific evidence indicates that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke, and

WHEREAS, The 2006 Surgeon General's Report documents that separating smokers from nonsmokers, cleaning the air, and ventilating smoke cannot eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke, and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises that all individuals with coronary heart disease or known risk factors for coronary heart disease should avoid all indoor environments that permit smoking; and

WHEREAS, exposure to secondhand smoke is expensive, costing the nation \$10 billion per year, \$5 billion in direct medical care costs, and \$5 billion in indirect costs according to the 2005 Society of Actuaries, and

WHEREAS, The 2006 Surgeon General's Report documents that eliminating indoor smoking fully protects nonsmokers from exposure to secondhand smoke, and

WHEREAS, smoke-free air policies have been shown to protect the public from exposure to secondhand smoke, and help smokers reduce the number of cigarettes consumed or quit entirely;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the undersigned endorses making all (Name of County/Town /City) Government buildings and transportation vehicles 100% smoke-free.

Name:

Address:

Phone Number: