

**PROTECTION FROM SECONDHAND AND THIRDHAND SMOKE**

WHEREAS, Almost 60 percent of U.S. children aged 3-11 years—or almost 22 million children—are exposed to second-hand smoke;<sup>1</sup>and

WHEREAS, Second-hand smoke exposure causes disease and premature death in children and adults who do not smoke; children exposed to second-hand smoke are at an increased risk for sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), acute respiratory infections, ear problems, and more severe asthma; and smoking by parents causes respiratory symptoms and slows lung growth in their children;<sup>2,3,4,5,6</sup> and

WHEREAS, Concentrations of many cancer-causing and toxic chemicals are higher in second-hand smoke than in the smoke inhaled by smokers; the scientific evidence indicates that there is no risk-free level of exposure to second-hand smoke; second-hand smoke contains many chemicals that can quickly irritate and damage the lining of the airways and even brief exposure can result in upper airway changes in healthy persons and can lead to more frequent and more asthma attacks in children who already have asthma;<sup>7,8,9,10</sup> and

WHEREAS, Eliminating smoking in indoor spaces fully protects non-smokers from exposure to second-hand smoke; separating smokers from non-smokers, cleaning the air, and ventilating buildings cannot fully eliminate exposure of second-hand smoke to non-smokers;<sup>11,12</sup> and

WHEREAS, Third-hand smoke is residual tobacco smoke contamination that remains after the cigarette is extinguished and children are uniquely susceptible to third-hand smoke exposure; these toxins take the form of particulate matter deposited in a layer onto every surface within the home, in loose household dust, and as volatile toxic compounds that “off gas” into the air over days, weeks, and months;<sup>13,14,15</sup> and

WHEREAS, Tobacco smoke in cars can reach unhealthy levels under the most realistic ventilation conditions and smoking just one cigarette in a car can lead to levels of tobacco smoke pollution that match and exceed by several times the levels found in the smokiest bars;<sup>16</sup> now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Utah PTA encourage the enforcement of non-smokers’ rights; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA continue to educate parents and youth concerning the hazards of second- and third-hand smoke and the damage it can do to the lungs of children; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies encourage parents to ban smoking inside their homes and cars for the health of their children; and be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA and its constituent bodies support legislative efforts to protect children and youth from second- and third-hand smoke.

(Replaces HEA 1977-2)

Documentation:

- <sup>1</sup>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke: A Report of the Surgeon General". U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office of Smoking and Health, 2006.
- <sup>2</sup>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "Women and Smoking. A Report of the Surgeon General". Rockville (MD): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Office of the Surgeon General, 2001.
- <sup>3</sup>Klonoff-Cohen, HS, Edelstein SL, Lefkowitz ES, Srinivasan IP, Kaegi D, Chang JC, Wiley KJ. "The effect of passive smoking and tobacco exposure through breast milk on sudden infant death syndrome". *Journal of the American Medical Association* 1995; 273(10):795-8.
- <sup>4</sup>Strachan DP, Cook DG. "Health effects of passive smoking. 1: parental smoking and lower respiratory illness in infancy and early childhood". *Thorax* 1997; 52(10):905-14.
- <sup>5</sup>Strachan DP, Cook DG. "Health effects of passive smoking. 6: parental smoking and childhood asthma: longitudinal and case-control studies". *Thorax* 1998; 53(3):204-12.
- <sup>6</sup>Cook DG, Strachan DP. "Health effects of passive smoking. 10: summary of effects of parental smoking on the respiratory health of children and implications for research". *Thorax* 1999; 54(4):357-66.
- <sup>7</sup>National Research Council. "Environmental Tobacco Smoke: Measuring Exposures and Assessing Health Effects". Washington: National Academy Press, 1986.
- <sup>8</sup>International Agency for Research on Cancer. "IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans: Tobacco Smoke and Involuntary Smoking". Vol. 83. Lyons (France): International Agency for Research on Cancer, 2004.
- <sup>9</sup>U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. "The Health Consequences of Smoking: A Report of the Surgeon General". Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2004.
- <sup>10</sup>U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Respiratory Health Effects of Passive Smoking: Lung Cancer and Other Disorders". Washington: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Research and Development, Office of Air and Radiation, 1992. Publication No. EPA/600/6-90/006F.
- <sup>11</sup>American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, Inc. "Environmental Tobacco Smoke: Position Statement", approved by ASHRAE Board of Directors. 2005.
- <sup>12</sup>California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal EPA) and Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment. "Health Effects of Exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke". California Environmental Protection Agency. 1997.
- <sup>13</sup>Winickoff JP, et al. "Beliefs about the health effects of "thirdhand" smoke and home smoking bans". *Pediatrics* 2009; 123; e74-e79.
- <sup>14</sup>Matt GE, Quintana PJ, Hovell MF, et al. "Households contaminated by environmental tobacco smoke: sources of infant exposures". *Tobacco Control*. 2004;13(1):29-37.
- <sup>15</sup>Singer BC, Hodgson AT, Guevarra KS, Hawley EL, Nazaroff WW. "Gas-phase organics in environmental tobacco smoke: 1—effects of smoking rate, ventilation, and furnishing level on emission factors". *Environ Sci Technol*. 2002;36(5):846-853.
- <sup>16</sup>Sendzik, T., Fong, G.T., Travers, M.J., & Hyland, A. "An experimental investigation of tobacco smoke pollution in cars". *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* 2009 11(6):627-634; doi:10.1093/ntr/ntp019.