

R037-0506

10 **A RESOLUTION CONCERNING**
20 **SUPPORT FOR A CLEAN INDOOR AIR ACT**

30 **WHEREAS:** Secondhand smoke is a mixture of more than 4,000 chemicals, 42 of which are
40 carcinogens and can cause cancer in people; and,

50 **WHEREAS:** According the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), about 3,000
60 nonsmoking adults in the U.S. die of lung cancer as a result of exposure to secondhand
70 smoke; and,

80 **WHEREAS:** Secondhand smoke is also responsible for approximately 35,000 deaths from coronary
90 heart disease in adult nonsmokers each year; and,

100 **WHEREAS:** In general, current state law in Maryland allows the public to smoke tobacco products in
110 a private residence, bars, taverns, a club with an alcoholic beverages license, and
120 restaurants under certain conditions; and,

130 **WHEREAS:** HB 375, the Clean Indoor Air Act of 2006, was introduced in the Maryland House of
140 Delegates with the intent to strengthen Maryland's ban on smoking in public places in an
150 attempt to significantly limit the negative effects of secondhand smoke; and,

160 **WHEREAS:** HB 375, prohibits smoking in an indoor area open to the public, an indoor place where
170 public meetings are held, public transportation, or an indoor place of employment,
180 including bars and restaurants; and,

190 **WHEREAS:** The nonsmoking ban in HB 375 does not apply to private homes, residences, and
200 automobiles; and,

210 **WHEREAS:** Prince George's County, Montgomery County, and Talbot County have a smoking ban
220 for in all bars or restaurants and Howard County passed a similar ban; and,

230 **WHEREAS:** The District of Columbia, Delaware, New Jersey, New York, California, Connecticut,
240 Maine, Massachusetts, Montana, Rhode Island, Washington, and Vermont have all
250 enacted comprehensive smoking bans;

260 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Maryland Student Legislature urges the Maryland General
270 Assembly to reintroduce and adopt a Clean Indoor Air Act for the State of Maryland that
280 extends the smoking ban to include bars, restaurants, and indoor places of employment.

290 **MANDATES:** Delegate Peter A Hammen, Chair of Health and Government Operations
300 Delegate Barbara Frush

SPONSOR:

Kevin Rodkey
University of Maryland, College Park
rodkeyk@umd.edu