WHEREAS, The United States Surgeon General’s report has defined the health hazards of smoking; and

WHEREAS, This report has resulted in efforts of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers to educate the general public concerning these hazards to children and youth; and

WHEREAS, More minors are smoking today at a younger age than ever before;

WHEREAS, Cigarettes are still available to minors from unsupervised vending machines; and

WHEREAS, Many sales persons are not aware of, or ignore such laws governing the sales of cigarettes to minors; and

WHEREAS, Five million of today’s children will die from smoking-related illnesses in their later years; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers, its units and councils support a continuing educational campaign in the local community regarding the health hazards of smoking; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers, its units and councils, seek the enforcement of present regulations and work for the passage of state laws requiring a minimum age for the purchase of cigarettes; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Missouri Congress of Parents and Teachers, its units and councils urge local school boards to adopt policies to prohibit tobacco use in school facilities and all school functions by students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

Adopted 1990