

Soldotna High School Student Government Resolution #5 A Resolution Supporting Senate Bill 1 and House Bill 328: Regulation of Smoking Submitted by Jackson Blackwell

Be it resolved by the Soldotna High School Student Government;

- 1. Whereas, SB 1 and HB328 seek to safeguard working Alaskans and their children from the adverse health effects of secondhand smoke by providing a statewide smoke-free workplace law for businesses and public place;
- 2. Whereas, exposure to secondhand smoke kills more than 41,000 adult non-smokers each year;
- 3. Whereas, The 2012 Alaska Division of Public Health report, Alaska Tobacco Facts, found more Alaskans die annually from the direct effects of tobacco use than from suicide, motor vehicle crashes, chronic liver disease and cirrhosis, homicide, and HIV/AIDS combined;
- 4. **Whereas**, The annual economic loss to Alaskans because of secondhand smoke is estimated to be in the millions of dollars;
- 5. Whereas, SB 1 and HB 328 ask smokers to "take it outside" in an effort to protect Alaskan employees and the public:
- 6. Whereas, SB 1 and HB 328 prohibit smoking in public spaces, in certain enclosed areas including: workplaces, child and adult care facilities, and in certain outdoor spaces;
- 7. **Whereas,** Over one-half of the population of Alaska including those in Bethel, Anchorage, Juneau, Barrow, Dillingham, Haines, Skagway, Petersburg, Klawock, Nome, Unalaska, and Palmer are currently living under smoke-free laws similar to SB 1 and HB 328;
- 8. Whereas, These laws in place are well established and strongly supported by citizens and businesses. For Alaskans residing in the remaining areas of the state, SB 1 and HB 328 offer a uniformly applied safeguard from second hand smoke that is currently not available;
- 9. **Whereas,** the intent of these Olbills are to protect the rights of non-smokers, save lives and reduce the health costs of secondhand exposure to tobacco use;

Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that the students of Alaska support the Alaska State Legislature in passing Senate Bill 1 and House Bill 328: Regulation of Smoking

Passed Unanimously by the Alaska Association of Student Governments at the Spring 2016 Conference

Laylor Holman, Vice President