



**UNIVERSITY OF GUAM
UNIBETSEDAT GUAHAN
Board of Regents**

Resolution No. 06-04

**RELATIVE TO IMPLEMENTING A TOTAL BAN ON SALES, SMOKING AND THE
DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF TOBACCO AND TOBACCO-BASED PRODUCTS ON
THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM CAMPUS BY AUGUST 1, 2006**

WHEREAS, tobacco plays a destructive role in the health of our communities

- Tobacco is the only legally available consumer product which kills people when used entirely as intended (*The Oxford Medical Companion*, 1994);
- The Environmental Protection Agency has classified secondhand smoke as a Group A carcinogen, a substance known to cause cancer in humans, and the EPA does not recognize a safe level of exposure to Group A carcinogens;
- Indisputable scientific evidence exists that links tobacco use and exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke to pulmonary and cardiovascular diseases and cancer;
- In his 1996 report, the United States Surgeon General concluded that involuntary smoking is a cause of disease, including lung cancer, in healthy non-smokers, and that the simple separation of smokers and non-smokers within the same air space may reduce, but does not eliminate, the exposure of non-smokers to environmental tobacco smoke;
- Over 60 percent of all Guam cancer deaths are tobacco related;
- In 2003, the percentage of Guam's people who smoked was 34 percent, which was the highest percentage of all U.S. states and territories;
- Smoking rates among Guam adults continue to increase despite the fact that over half of the current smokers have recently attempted to quit;
- 23.3% of middle school students and 31.6% of high school students on Guam are current smokers, according to 2003 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (YRBS);
- Middle school students reported as current smokers show a marked increase from 17.6% in 1997 to 23.3% in 2003 (YRBS 2003);
- 14.7% of middle school students smoked a whole cigarette before the age of 11;
- 81.5% of high school students who are current smokers tried to quit smoking in the past 12 months for which the majority failed to quit (YRBS 2003);
- 66% of Guam's students were exposed to second hand tobacco smoke (Youth Tobacco Survey [YTS] 2002);
- Young people whose parents smoke are influenced by their parent's example and are more likely to smoke themselves (YRBS 2003); and

WHEREAS, the Guam community has recognized the need to control tobacco products:

- Guam Public Law 21-025 prohibits the sale of tobacco to minors and establishes fines for selling tobacco to minors;
- Guam Public Law 21-139, Guam's Clean Indoor Air Act of 1992, prohibits smoking in all enclosed public places and requires restaurants to designate at least 50% of their restaurant seating as non-smoking;

- Guam Public Law 24-278, The Tobacco Control Act of 1998, regulates the sale of tobacco products and extends the prohibition of vendors from selling tobacco products to minors to also prohibiting minors from possessing, using and purchasing tobacco products;
- Guam Public Law 28-20, The Natasha Perez Protection Act of 2005, prohibits smoking in Guam restaurants, except for restaurants that turn into bars late at night;
- Several public and private organizations have come together to form the Tobacco Control Research Advisory Group (TAG) which include the American Cancer Society, the Department of Education, the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, the Department of Public Health and Social Services, the Governor's PEACE Council, and the University of Guam;
- Random inspections demonstrated over 80% compliance with the law among tobacco vendors (2003 Annual Synar Report);
- Guam's youth are aware and continue to learn that smoking is bad for one's health; and

WHEREAS, other colleges and universities are aware of the challenges of tobacco control:

- A 2000 JAMA identified the pervasiveness of tobacco use amongst college students, where 46% of college students nationally reported using tobacco in the previous 12 months;
- The 2001 Harvard School of Public Health College Alcohol Study showed support amongst both smokers and non-smokers for banning tobacco use in residential living and dining facilities and banning tobacco ads and sponsorships;
- Through the American Cancer Society's Smoke-Free New England Campus initiative created a seven-step process for colleges and universities to go smoke-free;
- Riverside Community College, California, banned all tobacco use on campus as of January 1, 2003;
- Several colleges and universities restrict smoking to only designated areas on campus: Cazenovia College, New York restricts smoking to one, fenced in area with picnic tables and butt receptacles, Cabrillo College and San Joaquin Delta College (both in California) have smoking areas in outlying parking lots, New Hampshire Technical Institute restricts smoking to five gazebos, and University of Maine at Fort Kent restricts smoking to a gazebo;
- Cornell University, New York, Wells College, New York, and the State University of New York at Oswego require smokers to stand at least 20 feet from all building entrances when smoking;
- Syracuse University, New York banned smoking inside all buildings, including living facilities and other areas previously reserved for smoking (e.g., on-campus pubs);
- Mount Holyoke College, Massachusetts allowed students to vote for policy change to ban smoking in living facilities;
- The University of New Hampshire expanded their non-smoking ban to forbid smoking in the football stadium, in university vehicles and refreshment areas, at bus stops and ATMs; and

WHEREAS, the University of Guam has adopted policies to create a healthy environment:

- University of Guam and the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii jointly obtained a federally-funded grant to develop a Cancer Research Center on Guam, which included funds to mobilize the Guam community to develop a research agenda that advances the use of empirical research to understand cancer on Guam;

- The land-grant mission of the University of Guam links its research aims with responsible actions with regard to its research and educational role within the community;
- Non-smoking Policy states that the University of Guam supports the rights of non-smokers and enables smoke-free environments to be established in classrooms, in public service areas and, generally, in all enclosed building areas on campus; and

WHEREAS, the University of Guam is committed to promoting the health, wellness and social well-being of the University Community, the People of Guam and the Western Pacific:

- It supports and educates students on planning change processes, and itself utilizes and models the same process when engaging in its own changes;
- It desires congruence between the desire for a healthy community and our responsibility to make healthy choices;
- It facilitates student research which has found a prevalence of tobacco use on campus.


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents authorizes the University of Guam administration to implement a total ban on sales, smoking and the distribution and use of tobacco and tobacco-based products on the University of Guam campus by August 1, 2006.

Adopted this 19th day of January, 2006.



Ronald H. Leach, Chairman

ATTESTED:



Harold L. Allen, Executive Secretary