

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-11

A RESOLUTION OF THE ALBANY CITY COUNCIL IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION 29 - THE CALIFORNIA CANCER RESEARCH ACT OF 2012

WHEREAS, the California Cancer Research Act is a state ballot measure which if passed by voters in June 2012 would save lives by preventing 104,000 premature smoking-caused deaths; and

WHEREAS, more than 332,000 California high school students are current smokers, more than 34,000 California youth start smoking every year and 3,383,000 California adults are current smokers; and

WHEREAS, the California Cancer Research Act would increase the state's tobacco tax by \$1 per pack and according to the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, the \$1 tax increase alone would prevent 228,000 children from becoming smokers in adulthood and more than 118,000 adult smokers in California would quit smoking; and

WHEREAS, the tobacco industry will spend millions to stop the California Cancer Research Act because they know it will stop hundreds of thousands from smoking; and

WHEREAS, the California Cancer Research Act would provide nearly \$600 million annually to fund research and make advances in the prevention, detection, treatment, causes and cures for cancer, lung disease, heart disease and stroke, and other tobacco-related illnesses; and

WHEREAS, the California Cancer Research Act would provide more than \$156 million annually to the state's existing tobacco control programs to prevent and reduce the use of tobacco, including school based programs to reduce youth smoking; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Analyst Office analysis of the California Cancer Research Act determined that local governments would likely experience an annual increase in sales tax revenues of approximately \$10 million; and

WHEREAS, by providing the funding we need to keep California's antismoking programs strong, we can keep our kids from smoking and give smokers the help they need to quit; and

WHEREAS, the California Cancer Research Act would provide \$23 million annually for law enforcement efforts to reduce illegal sales of tobacco products to minors, and other anti-tobacco law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the California Cancer Research Act will result in \$5.1 billion in long-term health savings from reduced smoking; and

WHEREAS, cigarette smoking and other uses of tobacco remain the leading causes of cancer, heart disease and stroke, and lung disease in California; and

WHEREAS, 36,687 adults die annually from smoking in California;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albany City Council does hereby support the California Cancer Research Act of 2012, which will reduce smoking, especially among children and fund critical research to prevent and treat cancer, heart disease and stroke, lung disease and other tobacco-related illnesses.