



TOWN OF TAOS RESOLUTION 06-73

IN SUPPORT OF STATEWIDE LEGISLATION
PROTECTING KIDS, WORKERS, AND PEOPLE WITH BREATHING PROBLEMS
BY ELIMINATING SMOKING IN INDOOR PUBLIC PLACES AND WORKPLACES –
INCLUDING RESTAURANTS, BARS, AND OFFICES

WHEREAS: The United States Surgeon General has declared that there is NO safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke, which remains a leading cause of preventable death in the United States; and

WHEREAS: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has warned that all patients at increased risk of coronary heart disease or with known coronary artery disease should avoid any indoor environments in which smoking occurs; and

WHEREAS: Nonsmokers who are exposed to secondhand smoke increase their risk of developing heart disease by 25-30%; and

WHEREAS: Children who breathe secondhand smoke are more likely to suffer from serious and costly illnesses including pneumonia, bronchitis, asthma, and middle-ear infections; and

WHEREAS: Employees such as waiters, waitresses, and bartenders who have exposure to secondhand smoke on a daily basis are twice as likely to fall victim to a heart attack and are nearly twice as likely to develop lung cancer due to involuntary exposure to secondhand smoke; and

WHEREAS: The United States Surgeon General has declared the only effective way to prevent secondhand smoke exposure for workers indoors is to provide completely smoke-free workplace environments;

WHEREAS: Secondhand smoke can trigger serious adult breathing problems including asthma and allergies and make it dangerous for persons with breathing problems to access indoor places where smoking is permitted; therefore be it;

WHEREAS: The Town of Taos has enacted an ordinance that prohibits smoking in Town owned buildings and desires to take the next step.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Town Council of the Town of Taos, hereby supports

And agrees to join New Mexicans Concerned About Tobacco, the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, and American Lung Association in supporting a strong statewide law that protects kids, workers, and people with breathing problems from secondhand smoke in public places and workplaces, including restaurants and bars, and which does not preempt local communities from adopting local policies expanding statewide secondhand smoke protections.

BOBBY F. DURAN,
MAYOR

ATTEST TO:

RENEE LUCERO,
TOWN CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

RENEE BARELA-GUTIERREZ,
TOWN ATTORNEY

Accepted and Agreed, this 19th day of December 2006.