RESOLUTION #15-06
UAA Smoking Ban

SPONSORED BY:

WRITTEN BY: Matthieu Ostrander, Senator; Jonathan Taylor, Representative

ENDORSED BY:

DATE: October 10, 2014

WHEREAS: In the Spring 2014 USUAA General Elections, voter turnout was nearly triple that of previous elections; and,

WHEREAS: In the Spring 2014 USUAA General Elections, implementation of a smoke free policy was the most contentious referenda, with less than 4% of voters choosing to abstain; and,

WHEREAS: USUAA must reach a supermajority in order to change our Constitution and believe it is necessary to reach this threshold in elections to support policy change; and,

WHEREAS: In the Spring 2014 USUAA General Elections, 52% of students voted for and 48% of students were not in support of implementing a smoke free policy at UAA; and,

WHEREAS: Students in the Spring 2014 General Election were not able to vote on the choice between designated smoking areas, comprehensively smoke-free, or the status quo; and,

WHEREAS: In the Spring 2014, a random sample of students was surveyed by USUAA regarding their attitudes and opinions towards life on campus at UAA as part of the USUAA Student Satisfaction Survey; and,

WHEREAS: Answering a question regarding student’s feelings about smoking on campus, over 62% of respondents support designated smoking zones on campus; and,

WHEREAS: USUAA is tasked with supporting the interests, welfare, and rights of all students at UAA;

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED
The Union of Students of the University of Alaska Anchorage considers smoking on campus to be an important issue for students and seeks to enhance public health at UAA while balancing the rights, personal autonomy, and interests of all students; and,
THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED
The Union of Students of the University of Alaska Anchorage opposes the implementation of a comprehensive smoke-free policy on the UAA campus at this time; and,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED
The Union of Students of the University of Alaska Anchorage supports the creation of designated smoking areas on the UAA campus based on the results of the Spring 2014 USUAA Student Satisfaction survey distributed by USUAA; and,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED
The Union of Students of the University of Alaska Anchorage emphasizes that a generous transition period of at least one (1) full academic year, and comprehensive education materials be available to all students about any changes to smoking policy as it is essential to success in achieving public health goals; and,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED
That the Union of Students at the University of Alaska Anchorage, taking into consideration the necessary transition time for education, logistical concerns, and full public announcement, believes that implementation of any new smoking policy at UAA should not begin before January 1, 2016 at the soonest to ensure the greatest amount of success possible; and,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED
That a copy of this legislation be forwarded to University of Alaska Chancellor Tom Case, University of Alaska Anchorage Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Bruce Schultz; Dean of Students and Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Development Dewain Lee; Director for Student Life and Leadership Annie Route; and Assistant Director for Student Leadership Paula Urtubey-Fish.

The Assembly has passed the attached legislation by a vote 9 - 1 - 2.
This legislation required majority vote of the Assembly, and has been through all of the Assembly’s legislative process. This requires the President’s signature of approval or disapproval seven days from its receipt.

Speaker of the Assembly Samantha Reisher

Approved

President Stacey R. Lucason

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Date of Meeting and Approval: ______________________  Date of Receipt: ____________________  € Scan € Web € Binder