Agency/Organization Resolution of Support Regarding

Position Statement on Tobacco Harm Reduction

WHEREAS, Tobacco use remains the single leading preventable cause of death and diseases in Michigan; the United States; **and**

WHEREAS, ALL tobacco products are harmful to health, and the best health advice to tobacco users is to avoid and discontinue ALL tobacco products without exception; **and**

WHEREAS, The use of any tobacco products, whether conventional tobacco products or those currently being promoted as reduced exposure products, put every Michigan resident at continued high risk for diseases and negative health outcomes; **and**

WHEREAS, "Reduced harm" tobacco products are completely unregulated, and manufacturers may make whatever claims they wish with no independent research to support or refute their statements; **and**

WHEREAS, Consumer research indicates that these products undermine tobacco dependence treatment efforts, since many people choose to continue their tobacco behavior, lulled by a false perception of their safety, compared to conventional tobacco products; **and**

WHEREAS, Spit (or any oral) tobacco raises the user's risk of oral cancer by 80 percent and the risk of esophageal and pancreatic cancer by 60 percent, in addition to its addictive nature which leads to difficulty in quitting; **and**

WHEREAS, Encouraging smokers to switch to smokeless products is bad public-health policy and there is no tobacco product that can be used safely;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the undersigned organization supports the Position Statement on Harm Reduction and commits to educate the public that all tobacco use carries significant health risks.

Approved this day of 2008 in , Michigan

Organization Name: _____ **Number of Members**: _____

Title: (Mr./Mrs./Ms./Dr./Other) _____

Contact Person (Print):_____

Address: _____

Phone, Fax, E-mail:_____

Authorized Signature: _____ **Date**: _____

Please Print Name: _____**Title:** _____

Please return to: **Tobacco-Free Michigan** Post Office Box 10231, Lansing, MI 48901.