

STATE OF ILLINOIS        )  
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COUNTY OF DEKALB        )

**RESOLUTION  
R2014-79**

WHEREAS, tobacco smoke is a hazard to public health and secondhand smoke causes heart disease, stroke, cancer, sudden infant death syndrome, low birth weight in infants, asthma (and exacerbation of asthma), bronchitis and pneumonia in children and adults, and it is the third leading cause of preventable death in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Surgeon General’s 2006 report determined that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke; the scientific evidence that secondhand smoke causes serious diseases and illnesses such as bronchitis and asthma, is massive and conclusive; separating smokers from non-smokers, cleaning the air, and ventilating buildings cannot eliminate secondhand smoke exposure; smoke-free policies are effective in reducing secondhand smoke exposure; and

WHEREAS, many businesses, organizations and Counties in Illinois are implementing smoke and tobacco-free worksite policies; and

WHEREAS, smoke and tobacco-free worksite policies can reduce health risks and health care costs to employees and the employer, and can reduce other costs (incurred due to risk of fires, insurance, and cleaning expenses), and can improve productivity; and

WHEREAS, research shows that the majority of smokers want to quit, but few succeed without help, such as by implementing smoke and tobacco-free worksites or through smoking cessation assistance; and

WHEREAS, DeKalb County Government Employees who smoke, or are exposed to secondhand tobacco smoke, are at an increased risk of premature death; and

WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Board of Health voted September 23, 2014, to approve a strong recommendation to the County Board to adopt a County Smoke and Tobacco-Free Worksite Policy, whereby the worksite is to include any property controlled by the County, including campuses and County vehicles, and the Board of Health recommended an employee committee to provide input into policy implementation; and

WHEREAS, the Health & Human Services Committee did concur with the recommendation of the Board of Health in recommending that the County Board adopts a Smoke-Free Policy on all property owned by the County, without exceptions;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the DeKalb County Board hereby adopts a County Smoke and Tobacco-Free Worksite Policy (to include electronic devices), whereby the worksite is to include any property owned by the County, including campuses and County-owned vehicles, with an implementation date of July 1, 2015.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a voluntary employee committee, assembled by the Public Health Administrator and the Finance Director, shall meet to provide input into policy implementation, including, but not limited to, timeframes, communication plans, the enforcement process, and cessation support, with said committee to report to the Health & Human Services Committee by March 31, 2015 for approval of the implementation plan, and for consideration of any policy amendments which may surface as needed.

ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY BOARD THIS 19<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2014, AD.

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Chairman, DeKalb County Board

ATTEST:

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County Clerk