

A RESOLUTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, HIGHLAND HEIGHTS KENTUCKY REQUESTING THAT THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF AMENDING AND ENFORCING THE CURRENT SMOKING POLICY.

WHEREAS: Students have brought forward several complaints regarding the issue of people smoking across the entirety of campus and lack of compliance with the current policy of designated smoking areas. Those students with tobacco allergies and asthma are therefore unable to avoid smokers, and

WHEREAS: According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one in twelve individuals in the United States has asthma (with that number increasing every year), which translates to approximately one thousand three hundred thirty-three (1,333) NKU students with asthma, and

WHEREAS: Current smoking policy is defined in the "NKU Clean Air Act of 2006" [Clean Air Act]. This policy states, "Northern Kentucky University shall appropriate adequate funds to inform the campus community of this policy and to effectively enforce it," and

WHEREAS: The Clean Air Act also states that "deans, directors, department heads, supervisors and administrators shall be responsible for disseminating this policy, for encouraging compliance with this policy, and for monitoring the appropriate signage," but the policy is not currently enforced, and

WHEREAS: If the individuals who are currently responsible for enforcement of the policy do not wish to implement it, this duty should be delegated elsewhere and the funds appropriated should be used to pay for this service, and

WHEREAS: NKU Facilities Management pays two (2) people twenty-three (23) dollars an hour for three (3) hours per day to clean up cigarette butts on campus according to Larry Blake, Assistant Vice President of Facilities Management. Thus, money is currently being spent to clean up after smokers and could instead be used to pay those who enforce the policy, and

WHEREAS: In addition to the money used to pay those who clean up cigarette butts, there is also a cost involved in cleaning smoking-related residue off of campus buildings. According to Blake, a minimum of three to four thousand dollars a year is used solely to remove this residue, and

WHEREAS: According to Blake, "having to power wash has [negative] consequences for the buildings," and


WHEREAS: There is not currently any deterrent in place to discourage students or faculty and staff from smoking in areas not designated for smoking. A small fine similar

to the fine currently in place for "improper disposal of trash" would aid in deterring people from smoking outside of the designated areas, and

WHEREAS: According to the Northern Kentucky University Ping My Health Report of 2011, 89 percent of Northern Kentucky University students do not smoke.


BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED ON THIS 2nd DAY OF APRIL 2012, THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY REQUESTS THAT THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF AMENDING AND ENFORCING THE CURRENT SMOKING POLICY.

Signed:


Dustin Robinson, President

Attest:


Daniel Cieslak, Senator


Aubrey Abbott, Senator