

2001 alPHa RESOLUTION NO. A01-9

TITLE: Strengthening of the Tobacco Control Act (TCA), Section 3

SPONSOR: Simcoe County District Health Unit

WHEREAS the Government of Ontario in 1994 established the Tobacco Control Act, in part, to control the access of tobacco by people under the age of 19 years and, control where tobacco can be offered for sale ; and

WHEREAS the evidence exists recognizing smoking as a serious cause of a number of adult illnesses, particularly heart disease, lung cancer and respiratory problems, which continues to burden the health care system, a result of smoking initiation during youth; and

WHEREAS smoking prevalence in youth has been on the increase over the last ten years; and

WHEREAS the Ontario Tobacco Research Unit's 2000 Monitoring Report¹ indicates that cigarette sales to minors is still significant; and

WHEREAS in February of 1999 an Expert Panel report² on the renewal of the Ontario Tobacco Strategy recommended strengthening the enforcement of the Tobacco Control Act sales to minors provision;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Local Public Health Agencies (alPHa) urges the Government of Ontario to strengthen the Ontario Tobacco Control Act through specifically amend Section 3 of the Tobacco Control Act to strengthen controls on access to tobacco by under-aged youth; and

AND FURTHER that alPHa urges the Association of Municipalities of Ontario to support this resolution.

***Status of Resolution:* Endorsed by the alPHa membership June 12, 2001**

¹ Ontario Tobacco Research Unit (2000) Monitoring the Ontario Tobacco Strategy – 1999/2000

² Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (1999) Actions will Speak Louder than Words: getting serious about tobacco control in Ontario)