

# A Commitment to Public Health

**W**HEREAS, more children alive today will die from tobacco use than from any single cause – including AIDS, alcohol, car accidents, murder, suicides, illegal drugs, and fires combined; and

**W**HEREAS, every day, another 3,000 American children start to smoke, nearly 1,000 of whom will die from lung cancer and other diseases caused by smoking; and

**W**HEREAS, the Surgeon General has concluded that nicotine is a powerfully addictive drug similar to cocaine and heroin; and

**W**HEREAS, over 430,000 Americans die each year from tobacco-related illnesses and millions more continue to suffer from lung cancer, emphysema, and heart disease caused by smoking; and

**W**HEREAS, Big Tobacco's financial support of organizations and community events creates a false positive image and is an attempt to portray smoking as an acceptable social behavior;

**T**HEREFORE, we pledge to not sell tobacco products and to neither accept nor solicit any financial contributions;

**W**E pledge not to accept commercial sponsorships, or gifts from any tobacco company, executive, or activity that promotes tobacco use, and

**W**E prohibit tobacco product promotion.

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Signature / Date

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Title

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Organization