

ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 215

Introduced by Preister, 5; Johnson, 37;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has designated Thursday, May 31, 2007, as World No Tobacco Day; and

WHEREAS, 20.3 percent of adults in Nebraska smoke tobacco, and 21.8 percent of youths in grades nine through twelve smoke tobacco; and

WHEREAS, 8.5 percent of adult males in Nebraska use smokeless tobacco, and 8.7 percent of adolescent males in Nebraska use smokeless tobacco; and

WHEREAS, tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States, causing over 400,000 deaths annually, and causing over 2,400 deaths in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, cigarette smoking is responsible for \$537 million of Nebraska's annual health care costs, including 10 percent of Nebraska's annual medicaid expenditures, and smoking-related mortality also results in over \$499 million in lost productivity each year, which translates to each Nebraskan paying a total of \$605 per person, no matter their age, for smoking-related medical expenses and lost productivity; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has an interest in promoting the health of all citizens and in reducing the costs of health care from tobacco-related illnesses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature joins with the World Health Organization in recognizing World No Tobacco Day on Thursday May 31, 2007, and calls upon all people to recognize the hazards of tobacco use and promote its reduction.