

Statement on Raising the Cigarette Tax

One of the most effective ways to reduce tobacco use, especially among youth, is to raise the price of cigarettes through tax increases.

The organizations below join together in working to prevent future death and disease, reduce youth smoking, reduce low-birth weight caused by smoking during pregnancy, and decrease the tax burden by substantially increasing South Carolina's excise tax on cigarettes.

Further, these organizations urge the South Carolina General Assembly to pass an increase in the cigarette tax to bring our state to the national average.

We ask that the funds be used as follows:

\$5 million for smoking cessation and prevention programs and the remainder be set aside in a dedicated fund for health care to ensure the state can meet its Medicaid obligations.



Federation of Families SC



United Way of the Midlands

