

# Resolution 2011-40

## RESOLUTION OF THE SOLANO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ENCOURAGING THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION TO BAN THE USE OF MENTHOL IN CIGARETTES

**WHEREAS**, the tobacco industry has a well-documented history of developing and marketing mentholated brands of cigarettes to racial and ethnic minorities and youth. 44% of children aged 12-17 years who smoke, and 51% of Asian American and Hispanic, 79% of African American, and 37% of white high school-aged smokers use menthol cigarettes; and

**WHEREAS**, tobacco industry documents clearly show how the tobacco industry designed flavored tobacco products to target youth. The tobacco industry has been manipulating the dose of menthol in cigarettes to ensure the uptake and continued use of tobacco, especially by young people and other vulnerable populations for many years; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has the authority under the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act, signed into law in June 2009, to issue product standards to promote public health, which can include eliminating or reducing certain ingredients; and

**WHEREAS**, the FDA already prohibits cigarettes from having candy, fruit, and spice as characterizing flavors because these flavors make tobacco products especially appealing to kids, and can lead to a lifetime of tobacco addiction; and

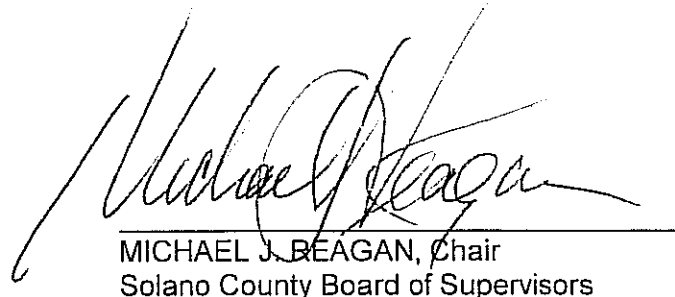
**WHEREAS**, menthol is the only cigarette additive that is actively marketed to consumers, and virtually all cigarettes contain at least some menthol to make cigarettes more palatable; and

**WHEREAS**, the Solano County Board of Supervisors is committed to the health and well being of its residents and is particularly concerned about preventing tobacco use among youth.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Solano County Board of Supervisors hereby supports the Food and Drug Administration's exercise of its authority to ban the use of menthol in cigarettes and other tobacco products in the United States.

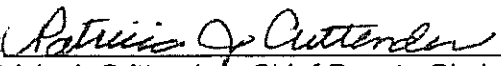
Dated this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March 2011



  
MICHAEL J. REAGAN, Chair  
Solano County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

MICHAEL D. JOHNSON, Clerk  
Solano County Board of Supervisors

By:   
Patricia J. Crittenden, Chief Deputy Clerk