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**A RESOLUTION TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PORTLAND RESIDENTS IN
MULTI-UNIT HOUSING EXPOSED TO SECONDHAND SMOKE**

WHEREAS the City of Portland, Maine has set as a goal that Portland be a safe and healthy place to live and work; and

WHEREAS tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death and disease in Maine; and

WHEREAS secondhand smoke contains a complex mixture of more than 4,000 chemicals, more than 50 of which are cancer causing agents; and

WHEREAS the EPA has established secondhand smoke as a known cause of cancer in humans and the American Cancer Society has established that there is no safe level of exposure to this cancer causing agent; and

WHEREAS secondhand smoke is a serious health risk to all people, especially infants, children, pregnant women and the elderly; and increases a non-smoker's risk for diseases such as asthma, heart disease and lung cancer; and

WHEREAS smoking materials are the leading cause of home and total fire deaths in the United States and in Maine; and

WHEREAS there is no ventilation system effective in removing cancer causing chemicals contained in secondhand smoke; and

WHEREAS surveys suggest that the majority of people in Maine prefer to live in smoke-free environments; and

WHEREAS tobacco-use and exposure to secondhand smoke are contrary to enhancing the quality of life and providing safe environments.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Portland does hereby declare that all residents deserve to breathe clean air and live in a smoke-free environment and that the City of Portland will collaborate with the Smoke-Free Housing Coalition of Maine and other public health organizations to advocate for an increase in the number of smoke-free housing units available in Portland.