



# INDIANA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

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## **FAMILY PHYSICIANS PLEDGE SUPPORT FOR INCREASE IN STATE TOBACCO TAX**

We salute the Governor for his leadership in proposing to increase the state's tobacco tax and restore tobacco prevention and cessation funds. Evidence shows us that increasing the price of cigarettes decreases initiation of youth smoking and reduces adult smoking.

The Indiana Academy of Family Physicians encourages the Indiana General Assembly to work together to adopt a tobacco tax increase of \$1.00, which would place Indiana's tobacco excise tax among the 15 highest in the nation. "Increasing Indiana's tobacco tax and dedicating just \$.07 per pack to tobacco prevention and cessation will fully fund the Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation (ITPC) Agency, creating a climate that enables Hoosier smokers to quit and helps prevent youth from ever experimenting with tobacco. A well-funded tobacco prevention and cessation program will finally offer our patients the help that they need to overcome this deadly tobacco addiction," said Windel Stracener, MD, IAFP President and family physician from Richmond.

The following "Resolved" statements were approved by the IAFP Board of Directors (most recently) on November 5, 2006:

*Be it resolved that the Indiana Academy of Family Physicians urges the Indiana General Assembly to increase Indiana's tobacco tax by at least \$1.00; and,*

*Be it further resolved that the Indiana Academy of Family Physicians urges the Indiana General Assembly to increase funding for ITPC to at least the CDC minimum recommended level of \$30 million annually; and,*

*Be it further resolved that the Indiana Academy of Family Physicians urges the Indiana General Assembly to allocate the remaining additional revenue from the tobacco tax increase to other priorities in health care.*