



Alaska Association of Student Governments

Resolution: #1

Zero Tolerance to Cigarette Butt Littering

Submitted by: Ketchikan High School

Kris Santos

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;

1. **Whereas**, regional executives will provide financial incentive, in the form of grants, if local businesses invest in efficient cigarette litter disposal;
2. **Whereas**, in 2002, Keep America Beautiful launched a campaign devoted to cigarette litter (Cigarettes);
3. **Whereas**, 360 billion cigarettes smoked in the United States in 2007 translates to a total of 135,000,000 pounds of discarded butts in one year in the United States alone (Cigarettes);
4. **Whereas**, a cigarette butt can cause fires and have other negative impacts on the environment and human health (Cigarettes);
5. **Whereas**, a small fire broke out on a city dock in Ketchikan during 2004, because of a lit cigarette butt (Carelessly);
6. **Whereas**, causing a fire by careless conduct is deemed a misdemeanor in Ketchikan, such as careless or willful smoking resulting in the tossing of a cigarette butt (Title 18);
7. **Whereas**, cigarette filters are made of plastic cellulose acetate, and take many years to decompose (Cigarettes);
8. **Whereas**, cigarette filters take 1-5 years to decompose (Waste);
9. **Whereas**, tobacco leaves contain several alkaloids, including the highly toxic alkaloid nicotine (Cigarette);
10. **Whereas**, about 18% of litter, traveling primarily through storm water systems, ends up in local streams, rivers, and waterways (Cigarette Litter);
11. **Whereas**, cigarette litter can pose a hazard to animals and marine life when they mistake filters for food (Cigarette Litter);

- 12. Whereas,** most cigarette littering happens at “transition points”, where a smoker must extinguish a cigarette before proceeding, such as outside retail stores, hotels, office buildings, and at bus shelters and train platforms (Cigarette Litter);
- 13. Whereas,** business owners bear the expense of cigarette litter cleanup around entrances, exits, sidewalks, and parking lots (Cigarette Litter);
- 14. Whereas,** cigarette butt litter can exceed into millions of dollars, such is the case in Virginia Beach, Virginia, where it cost more than 3 million dollars to clean storm drains as cigarette butts were a significant component (Cigarette);
- 15. Whereas,** defiance of proper disposal of cigarettes be punished with a littering ticket of 1000 dollars;
- 16. Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that extensive forms of disposal for cigarette butts be installed throughout Ketchikan, Alaska such as cigarette receptacles throughout the communities of Ketchikan with funding provided by the committee of Community and Regional/State Affairs.**

Action Statement: This resolution, if approved by the GA of AASG, should be sent to the following:

**Senator Bert Stedman
50 Front Street
Ketchikan, AK 99901-6442**

**Senator Gary Stevens
345 W. Sterling Hw., Suite 102A
Homer, AK 99603**

**Borough Mayor Dave Kiffer
1900 First Avenue, Suite 115
Ketchikan Alaska 99901**

**Ketchikan Fire Department
319 Main Street
Ketchikan, AK 99901**

**Chamber of Commerce Ketchikan
744 Water Street
Ketchikan, AK 99901-61410**

References:

“Cigarette Butt Litter - Questions and Answers.” 2009. Longwood.edu (part of Clean Virginia Waterways, Department of Natural Sciences). 25 August 2009.

<<http://www.longwood.edu/CLEANVA/cigbuttqanda.htm>>

“Cigarette Litter.” 2009. Keeppearlandbeautiful.org (part of WEB-LESS company and affiliates) 24 August 2009.

<<http://www.keeppearlandbeautiful.org/cigarettelitter.html>>

“Cigarettes Butt Litter.” 2000. Longwood.edu (part of Clean Virginia Waterways, Department of Natural Sciences). 24 August 2009.

<<http://www.longwood.edu/cleanva/ciglitterarticle.htm>>

"Title 18: Fire Prevention - Chapter 18.30 - Smoking." 2009. city.ketchikan.ak.us (Alaskan city websites, Official US documents). 11 October 2009.

<<ftp://www.city.ketchikan.ak.us/pub/municode/18-30.pdf>>

"Carelessly Tossed Cigarette Butt Likely Cause of Dock Fire" 23 July 2004 (Sitnews and company) 11 Oct 2009.

<http://www.sitnews.us/SitnewsArchives/0704/072304_sitnews.html>

"Waste Decomposition Rates." 2009. (Green Living Tips based in Australia). 11 Oct 2009.

<<http://www.greenlivingtips.com/articles/311/1/Waste-decomposition-rates.html>>



Alaska Association of Student Governments
Resolution: #2
Allow Hall Passes on Mondays and Fridays
Submitted by Glennallen High School

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;

1. **Whereas**, students cannot control specific times and days they need to use the restroom.
2. **Whereas**, the intent of this rule is stop class disruption, however, it is not plausible.
3. **Whereas**, holding your bladder can create a bladder infection (also called a urinary tract infection.) 1*
4. **Whereas**, on Fridays and Mondays there are only four minutes in between each class period. 2*
5. **Whereas**, four minutes does not give adequate time to use the restroom and go to your locker.
6. **Whereas**, some students use their hall passes for a book that they forgot but is required for said day.
7. **Whereas**, students are already limited to three hall passes per class, per quarter. 3*
8. **Therefore be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that Glennallen High School removes the rule of No Hall Passes on Fridays and Mondays.**

Action Statement: This resolution, if approved by the GA of AASG, is to be delivered to the Administrators of Glennallen High School by its delegation.

References:

1*Benson, Beth. "No, You May Not Use the Bathroom!." *Associated Content* 25072007 1-2. Web.3 Sep 2009.

http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/283543/when_you_gotta_go_you_gotta_go_let.html?all=1&cat=5.

2* "Bell Schedule." *Copper River School District Handbook*. 2009-2010. 2009. Print.

3* "Hall Passes." *Copper River School District Handbook*. 2009-2010. 2009. Print.



Alaska Association of Student Governments
Resolution: #3
Bagasse Trays: A Polystyrene Alternative
Submitted by Petersburg High School

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;

- 1. Whereas,** Petersburg City Schools' food services currently use polystyrene trays;
- 2. Whereas,** Petersburg City Schools daily serves an average of 185 individual lunches (Baldwin);
- 3. Whereas,** the estimated individual lunch tray use will be 32,000 by the end of the 2010 school year;
- 4. Whereas,** polystyrene is a petroleum based plastic made from the styrene monomer ("Polystyrene Foam Report");
- 5. Whereas,** styrene primarily exhibits its toxicity to humans as a neurotoxin by attacking the central and peripheral nervous systems ("Health Effects");

6. **Whereas**, polystyrene also affects the hormones in the body and may play a part in developing thyroid problems or even breast cancer ("Clouds in Your Coffee?");
7. **Whereas**, styrene additionally affects our land and water environments by releasing pollutants into the air (Gugger);
8. **Whereas**, in 1986 the EPA identified 57 chemical byproducts that were released into the air through its production. Many of the pollutants are known to cause serious health effects (Gugger);
9. **Whereas**, an EPA report on solid waste named the polystyrene manufacturing process as the fifth largest creator of hazardous waste ("Polystyrene Foam Report");
10. **Whereas**, some polystyrene is now manufactured with HCFC-22 ("Polystyrene Foam Report"), a greenhouse gas which is destructive to the ozone layer;
11. **Whereas**, Bagasse has been used as a replacement for polystyrene products;
12. **Whereas**, Bagasse is the fiber left over after the juice has been squeezed out of sugarcane stalks ("Bagasse");
13. **Whereas**, Bagasse fibers are used as a source of cellulose for some paper products ("What is Bagasse?");
14. **Whereas**, biodegradable Bagasse food service products can be composted (Integrated Waste Management Board);

15. **Whereas**, even if Bagasse is not correctly composted and left in the elements, the negative impact on ecosystems is minimized when it biodegrades (Integrated Waste Management Board);

16. **Whereas**, sugarcane is a readily renewable resource ("Sugar Cane Bagasse");

17. **Whereas**, sugarcane fiber can be turned into products normally made from plastic or paper; ("Plates")

18. **Whereas**, using sugarcane fiber to create Bagasse eliminates the need for disposing of the byproducts ("Sugar Cane Bagasse");

19. **Whereas**, widespread sugarcane cultivation is occurring in several emerging economies ("Sugar Cane Bagasse");

20. **Whereas**, Bagasse paper pulp requires minimal delignification and bleaching to turn it into high-strength and durable paper "(Sugar Cane Bagasse)"

21. **Whereas**, Bagasse lunch trays would cost approximately twice as much as polystyrene trays;

22. **Whereas**, Petersburg City School spends approximately \$2,842 on styrene trays per year and Bagasse would cost approximately \$5,753 per school year ("Biodegradable Plates");

23. **Whereas**, Petersburg City Schools would qualify for several grants with the assistance of the Petersburg Indian Association, covering a portion of the difference of \$2,911 (Johnson);

24. Whereas, Petersburg City Schools would like for the Styrene-Bagasse replacement to serve as a model program for other schools across the state;

25. Therefore, be it resolved by Alaska Association of Student Government that Petersburg City Schools replace their Polystyrene lunch trays with Bagasse sugarcane lunch trays.

Action Statement: This resolution if approved by the GA of AASG will be presented to Petersburg School Board along with Petersburg Indian Association.

References:

"Bagasse." Encyclo: Online Encyclopedia. 24 Sep. 2009. [Encyclo.co.uk](http://www.encyclo.co.uk). 24 Sep. 2009 <<http://www.encyclo.co.uk/define/bagasse>>.

Baldwin, Cheryl. Personal Interview. 19 Sept. 2009.

"Biodegradable Plates". EcoFriendly Products. 2009. The Green Supply Company. 22 Sep. 2009. <<http://www.mygreensupply.com/biodegradable-plates-s/33.htm>>.

"Clouds in Your Coffee? Try Less Styro, More Foam." Eco-Logical. 2008. Grinning Planet. 17 Sep. 2009. <<http://www.grinningplanet.com/2008/04-08/foam-cups-polystyrene-cups-article.htm>>.

Gugger, Michelle. "Climate for Action: Choosing an Alternative to Polystyrene." Greenversations. 24 Mar. 2009. Environmental Protection Agency. 17 Sep. 2009 <<http://blog.epa.gov/blog/2009/03/24/climate-for-action-choosing-an-alternative-to-styrofoam/>>.

"Health Effects." Polystyrene & Health Homepage. 4 Mar. 1996. ActionPA.org. 17 Sep. 2009. <<http://www.ejnet.org/plastics/polystyrene/health.html>>.

Integrated Waste Management Board. Use and Disposal of Polystyrene in California: A Report to the California Legislature. Rep. no. 432-04-003. Sacramento, 2004. 17 Sept. 2009. <http://docs.google.com/gview?a=v&q=cache:Ny4I3bCbqXIJ:www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Publications/Plastics/43204003.pdf+use+and+disposal+of+polystyrene+in+California+a+report&hl=en&gl=us&sig=AFQjCNFk7Etz7mslBJA_KW0msrA50ohmtA>

Johnson, Ben. Telephone (personal) interview. 31 Aug. 2009.

"Plates." Biocompostables. 2009. Worldcentric.org. 15 Sep. 2009
<<http://www.worldcentric.org/biocompostables/plates/all-plates>>.

"Polystyrene Foam Report." Earth Resource Foundation. Earth Resource Foundation. 17 Sep. 2009. <<http://www.earthresource.org/campaigns/capp/capp-styrofoam.html>>.

"Sugar Cane Bagasse." Biodegradable Materials Summary. 2009. BioSmart.org. 19 Sep. 2009
<http://www.biosmartpackaging.com/Biodegradable_Materials.html>.

"What is Bagasse?" Hybrid Cars and Alt Fuels. 2009. About.com. 19 Sep. 2009
<<http://alternativefuels.about.com/od/glossary/g/bagasse.htm>>.



Alaska Association of Student Governments

Resolution: #6

0 Grams Trans Fat

Submitted by Ketchikan High School

Alli Monicello

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;

- 1. Whereas,** presently, restaurants in Alaska are not required to cook their food in 0 grams trans fat;
- 2. Whereas,** trans fats are formed when liquid oils are made into solid fats by adding hydrogen in a process called hydrogenation; ("New")
- 3. Whereas,** trans fat increases the risk of heart disease, a leading cause of death among New Yorkers; ("Artificial")

4. **Whereas**, based on the most conservative estimates, in New York City alone artificial trans fat kills at least 500 people each year, more than the number killed in motor vehicle crashes; ("Artificial")
5. **Whereas**, in December 2005, New York City became the nation's first city to ban artificial trans fats at restaurants as well as California in 2008; ("New")
6. **Whereas**, the ban would affect almost all prepared food in restaurants, bakeries, cafeterias, salad bars, and food carts; ("NYC")
7. **Whereas**, following New York's deadlines, Alaska would have 6 months to make sure that all oils, shortening and margarine containing artificial trans fat used for frying or for spreads have less than 0.5 grams of trans fat per serving; ("Amendment")
8. **Whereas**, following those six months, Alaska would have an additional 12 months to have less than 0.5 grams of trans fat per serving in all foods containing artificial trans fats; ("Amendment")
9. **Whereas**, after three months, restaurants will face a \$2,000 fine if they are caught in noncompliance; ("NYC")
10. **Whereas**, many food makers have stopped using trans fats on their own, after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration began requiring companies to list trans fat content on labels; ("New")
11. **Whereas**, on average, Americans consume almost 6 grams of trans fat each day; ("Artificial")
12. **Whereas**, a single fast food meal can contain more than 10 grams of trans fat; ("Artificial")
13. **Whereas**, the FDA estimates the average American eats 4.7 pounds of trans fats each year; ("New")
14. **Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Students Governments that AASG supports the requirement of all restaurants in Alaska to cook their food in 0 grams trans fat.**

Action Statement: Please send this resolution to the Alaska Health Care Strategies Planning Council, State Legislature, House of Representatives, and the Office of Governor Sean Parnell

References:

“Amendment to phase out trans fat.” New York City Department of health and mental Hygiene. 2008.

<<http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/cardio/cardio-transfat-healthcode.shtml>.>

"Artificial Trans Fat Is Unhealthy." New York City Health Department. 21 September 2006.

<<http://www.emaxhealth.com/75/7591.html>.>

"Healthy Heart - Avoid Trans Fat." New York City Department of Health and Education. 2008.

<<http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/cardio/cardio-transfat.shtml>.>

"New York City Passes Trans Fat Ban." MSNBC News Services. 5 December 2006.

<<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/16051436/>.>

“NYC Prepares for Trans Fat Ban.” The Associated Press. 29 June 2008.

<http://www.oregonlive.com/health/index.ssf/2008/06/nyc_prepares_for_trans_fat_ban.html.>



Alaska Association of Student Governments

Resolution: #7

Allowing Personal Media Players

Submitted by Bethel Regional High School

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;

- 1. Whereas,** BRHS has an all-inclusive electronics policy.
- 2. Whereas,** the teachers are not given a chance to use their own policies in their own classrooms if they desire to implement them.
- 3. Whereas,** the concept of multiple intelligences, being incorporated into many of our classrooms, says that every student learns differently, which includes the possibility of learning better with music or with video.
- 4. Whereas,** the use of personal media players by students, with the approval of their

teachers, can often be beneficial to the individual student.

5. **Whereas**, a personal media player is defined as an MP3 player-like device such as iPods and Zunes.
6. **Whereas**, the use of electronics in an appropriate environment does not infringe upon the learning experience any other student is having.
7. **Whereas**, the consequences for using personal media players outside of the teacher-approved times would remain the same as using them in the halls.
8. **Therefore, be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments, that AASG supports the BRHS Student Council in pursuing a change in the electronic policy of BRHS to allow the use of personal media players such as MP3 players in the classroom at the teacher's discretion.**

Action Statement: The BRHS Student Council will present this resolution, with the support of AASG, to the Bethel Advisory School Board and the Administration.



Alaska Association of Student Governments

Resolution: #9

Installation of Additional Surveillance Cameras in Kodiak High School

Submitted by Kodiak High School

Karsten Schick

Be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments;

1. **Whereas**, unlawful activity has occurred in KHS's parking lot in the form of vandalism to the school, theft from vehicles, and unaccounted for vehicle damage due to accidents and vandalism.
2. **Whereas**, unlawful activity has occurred in KHS in the form of hazing, theft from left out belongings, theft from gym lockers, and altercations in the hallways.
3. **Whereas**, many of these crimes have been unaccounted for due to not having proof of the alleged crimes.

4. **Whereas**, the installation of surveillance cameras would allow for these illegal activities to be accessed through recordings accessible only by the main office in the event of a crime without audio tracks, and to be used and viewed only for the prosecution of a crime or to monitor the school in the event of a dangerous intruder gaining entrance to the building.
5. **Whereas**, the installation of surveillance cameras at particular locations throughout the school would also deter the intention of committing crimes and will further assist in the prosecution of criminals along with saving money from insurance premiums by the reduced burglaries and vandalism.
6. **Whereas**, the presence of surveillance cameras in high schools is not at all impractical or unusual in the United States, many schools going as far as having live feed running in the offices at all hours.
7. **Whereas**, the cost of purchasing one digital surveillance camera would be no more than \$350, including shipping.
8. **Whereas**, by the time that Kodiak's high school is renovated and reconstructed, the cameras would be well suited to find new homes in the nearby middle school, or in other locations in the new high school deemed worthy by the KIBSD, and would in no way be a temporary investment.
9. **Therefore be it resolved by the Alaska Association of Student Governments that they are officially in support for Kodiak's student council and administration to request the local police department to purchase 4 surveillance cameras for an estimated cost of \$1400 for the KIBSD. The cameras would be installed in four key locations identified by school administrators.**

Action Statement: This resolution, if approved by the GA of AASG, is to be presented to Kodiak's school board, Kodiak's mayor and city council, and Kodiak's police department for consideration.

References:

*1. Osborn, Alice. "Video surveillance cameras in schools -- addressing student safety and security." Video Surveillance Guide. 17 Aug 2005. <http://www.video-surveillance-guide.com/>, Web. 13 Oct 2009. <<http://www.video-surveillance-guide.com/video-surveillance-cameras-in-schools.htm>>.

