



★★ **Resolution** ★★

1. WHEREAS	Texas ranks 47th in the U.S. in spending per student, with education spending at its lowest rate since 2005-2006 ¹ ; and
2. WHEREAS	25% of the revenue raised from alcohol excise taxes funds education in Texas ² ; and
3. WHEREAS	Excessive alcohol use costs each Texan \$695 a year, amounting to a total cost of \$19 billion in 2013 ³ ; and
4. WHEREAS	Underage alcohol use costs Texas \$2.1 billion annually, and increased excise taxes are associated with decreased underage drinking and related consequences ⁴ ; and
5. WHEREAS	Excise taxes on alcohol in Texas have not changed since 1984, are lower than all neighboring states and lower than the national average, and have lost half their value when indexed for inflation; and
6. WHEREAS	Excessive alcohol consumption is a leading risk factor of negative health outcomes, such as unintentional injuries, violence, unintended pregnancy, and cardiovascular disease ⁵ , resulting in an estimated statewide healthcare cost of \$1.6 billion in 2013; and
7. WHEREAS	Raising the state’s alcohol excise tax a dime a drink will save 113,205 Texans from alcohol use disorders, reduce teen pregnancy by 359 cases, and reduce both alcohol-impaired fatalities and babies being born with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome by nine percent each year ⁶ ; and
8. WHEREAS	Raising the state’s alcohol excise tax a dime a drink will increase revenue to the state by \$708 million annually ⁷ ; and
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED	That the undersigned organization or individual supports increasing Texas’ alcohol excise tax by a dime a drink to save lives and health care costs caused by alcohol abuse and supports using the funds raised by the alcohol tax increase to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Reduce drug and alcohol abuse by funding community-based prevention, intervention, and treatment programs; ■ Increase state funding for education; ■ Increase funding for law enforcement to reduce costs of underage drinking due to traffic crashes, violence, and property violations; and ■ Reduce the taxpayer burden of health care costs.

Signer: Organization Individual

Organization Name _____

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____

Printed Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Best way to contact you: Email Phone Fax

Return to: Texans for Education, Health and Safety at resolution@dimeadrinktx.org
 FAX 512-474-2690. P.O. Box 41554 Austin, TX 78704 Questions? info@dimeadrinktx.org

¹ National Education Association Rankings and Estimates. NEA Research. March, 2014.
² Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code, Title 5-Taxation, Chapter 205
³ Diaz, M., Chaloupka, F., Jernigan, D. The Effects of Alcohol Excise Tax Increases in Texas. 2014.
⁴ Diaz, M., Chaloupka, F., Jernigan, D. The Effects of Alcohol Excise Tax Increases in Texas. 2014.
⁵ Daley, J., Stahre, M., Chaloupka, F., Nii, T. The Impact of a 25-Cent Per Drink Alcohol Tax Increase. The American Journal of Preventive Medicine, 2012.
⁶ Diaz, M., Chaloupka, F., Jernigan, D. The Effects of Alcohol Excise Tax Increases in Texas, 2014.
⁷ Diaz, M., Chaloupka, F., Jernigan, D. The Effects of Alcohol Excise Tax Increases in Texas. 2014.