

# Ingham County Board of Health

## Resolution Supporting the Clean Air Act

WHEREAS, outdoor air pollution is now recognized as a public health problem both nationally and at the state level;

WHEREAS, numerous studies are finding deleterious health effects from air pollution levels once deemed safe;

WHEREAS, air pollution causes exacerbation of chronic lung disease and asthma resulting in increased numbers of emergency visits and hospitalizations, and is also implicated in heart disease, strokes and premature deaths;

WHEREAS, Ingham County's children experience more than 200 asthmas-related hospitalizations each year, and a child is hospitalized for asthma on average every forty hours, and Ingham County's childhood asthma hospitalization rate is 36%, which is double the state rate of 18%;

WHEREAS, Michigan's geographic location makes its citizens susceptible to air pollution generated in other states, in addition to that from within the state, resulting in half of its citizens living in counties with unhealthy air;

WHEREAS, the Clean Air Act is the best tool we have to protect ourselves from cross-state air pollution; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Ingham County Board of Health strongly supports the Clean Air Act and emphatically opposes all attempts to weaken, dismantle, overrule, or otherwise impede the Environmental Protection Agency from enforcing or implementing it.

May 1, 2012

i American Academy of Pediatrics Policy. Ambient Air Pollution: Health Hazards to Children. PEDIATRICS Vol. 114 No. 6 December 2004, pp. 1699-1707. Available at <http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/content/full/pediatrics;114/6/1699>

ii The Benefits and Costs of the Clean Air Act from 1990 to 2020. The US Environmental Protection Agency. August 2010. Available at: <http://www.epa.gov/oar/sect812/aug10/fullreport.pdf>.

iii American Lung Association State of the Air 2011. Maine Report Card available at <http://www.stateoftheair.org/2011/states/maine/>. Full report available at <http://www.stateoftheair.org/2011/assets/SOTA2011.pdf>

iv The Benefits and Costs of the Clean Air Act from 1990 to 2020. The US Environmental Protection Agency. August 2010. Available at: <http://www.epa.gov/oar/sect812/aug10/fullreport.pdf>