

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO.

On the motion of
duly seconded by
the following resolution is adopted

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLY BILL 2308, TO BAN BUTTS TO
ELIMINATE TOXIC CIGARETTE WASTE

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 4.5 trillion single-use plastic cigarette filters or "butts," are littered annually around the globe; and

WHEREAS, these butts are made from a non-biodegradable plastic called cellulose acetate, and when discarded, these toxic plastic cigarette butts end up in our marine and urban environments, leaching thousands of carcinogenic toxins into the water and soil, and can take up to 10 years to decompose; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Transportation estimates that our state spends \$41 million annually in cleanup costs and, despite efforts from anti-litter campaigns, strict anti-litter laws, and strong anti-litter enforcement laws that include fines of up to \$1,000 and mandatory orders to clean up litter for no less than eight hours for each conviction, cigarette butts remain the single most littered item being collected on our highways and at organized beach cleanup events; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration's Office of Response and Restoration, fish, birds and other animals commonly eat plastic waste like cigarette butts and choke, or even starve to death from a false feeling of satiation; and

WHEREAS, volunteers working with Save Our Shores have collected more than 466,000 cigarette butts during organized beach cleanup events in Monterey Bay alone, and the Ocean Conservancy reported that in the past 25 years, volunteers have picked up nearly 52.9 million cigarette butts during the International Coastal Cleanup event held annually; and

WHEREAS, from 2006 to 2008, the American Association of Poison Control Centers reported over 12,600 cases of children ingesting cigarette butts; especially children under the age of six years; and

WHEREAS, the tobacco industry has been misleadingly marketing filtered cigarettes as the safer option for decades, however, the Surgeon General reports that filtered cigarettes are useless in reducing harm to smokers, and additional research has found that filters have likely contributed to the rise in a form of lung cancer that occurs deep in the lungs; and

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BANNING BUTTS TO ELIMINATE TOXIC CIGARETTE WASTE

WHEREAS, the proposed bill, Assembly Bill (AB) 2308, would prohibit the sale, gift, or furnishing of cigarettes with single-use filters, and would command strong anti-black market provisions that ensure proper enforcement to include a fine of \$500 for each violation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Santa Cruz County Board of supports and encourages the passage of AB 2308.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this ____ day of FEBRUARY, 2018, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISOR
NOES: SUPERVISOR
ABSENT: SUPERVISOR

ZACH FRIEND, CHAIR
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: _____
Clerk of said Board

Approved as to form:



County Counsel

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