



## **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CLEAN AIR ACT**

**WHEREAS**, outdoor air pollution is now recognized as an important problem nationally and at the state level, and numerous studies are finding important health effects from air pollution levels once deemed safe;

**WHEREAS**, air pollution can have very serious health effects including shortness of breath and wheezing, asthma attacks, increased emergency room visits and hospitalizations, heart attacks, strokes and congestive heart failure, worsened chronic lung diseases and premature death;

**WHEREAS**, half of the people in Maine live in counties with unhealthy air, and Maine's geographic location makes us susceptible to air pollution generated in other states, in addition to our own air pollution;

**WHEREAS**, ground-level ozone (the main ingredient of smog), in particular, presents a serious air quality problem for residents in Hancock County by irritating the respiratory system, reducing lung function, and increasing the susceptibility of the lungs to infections, allergens, and other air pollutants;

**WHEREAS**, local air quality monitoring of ozone levels since 1996 indicates a slight improving trend in the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ozone due to the regulatory controls on air pollution provided under the Clean Air Act;

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

**WHEREAS**, in 2010, the Clean Air Act helped prevent 160,000 premature deaths and 1.7 million asthma attacks,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Directors of Healthy Acadia strongly supports the Clean Air Act and emphatically opposes all attempts to weaken, dismantle, or overrule it, or otherwise impede the Environmental Protection Agency from fully enforcing or implementing the Clean Air Act.