RESOLUTION

Senate Bill No.: R. S. 16

Date Submitted: 01/29/2019

Date Introduced: 01/29/2019

Date Action Taken: 02/05/2019

Introduced By: Senator Weinstein, Committee on the Environment

Sponsored: [Signature]

Chair Corcoran

Certified: [Signature]

Speaker of the Senate Scannell

Signed: [Signature]

President Foley

Resolution Supporting the Addition of Cigarette Butt Receptacles on Campus

WHEREAS, the University of Vermont’s (UVM) vision is “To be among the nation’s premier small research universities, preeminent in our comprehensive commitment to liberal education, environment, health, and public service”, 1

WHEREAS, the Tobacco-Free Campus Initiative has led to the removal of cigarette butt receptacles as of August of 2015, 2

WHEREAS, leachates and heavy metals from cigarettes and cigarette butts littered on the ground degrade our ecosystem by flowing into Lake Champlain and toxifying aquatic life, 3

WHEREAS, environmental degradation has been found to negatively impact the mental health of locals, in this case Burlington’s students, families, and other community members, 4

WHEREAS, students have demonstrated their desire for cigarette butt receptacles by advocating for receptacles to return to campus, organizing and executing cigarette butt cleanups, and creating a petition that has gained over 300 signatures, 5

WHEREAS, prospective students and families who visit campus are exposed to piles of cigarette butts at a university with a Tobacco-Free policy, tarnishing the reputation of UVM as a university at the forefront of environmental protection,

1https://www.uvm.edu/president/?Page=mission.html
2https://vtcynic.com/opinion/no-ifs-ands-or-butts-about-tobacco-free-campus-initiative-failure/
3https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3088407/
4https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1846091/
5https://uwmbutts.weebly.com
BE IT RESOLVED, the University of Vermont Student Government Association supports the addition of cigarette butt receptacles on campus to prevent the degradation of aquatic life in Lake Champlain, positively affect the mental health of the Burlington community, beautify our campus for prospective families, and continue in the University of Vermont's mission to be committed to the environment.