



NOTE: The following resolution is drafted for use in a community within one of the 13 states that has a community water fluoridation law or policy. These states include Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio and South Dakota.

Check with other public health advocates or organizations in your community before asking a city council member or county official to propose this resolution. These colleagues can help you determine the appropriate timing for a resolution like this, and they might wish to join you in asking a local official to sponsor this resolution. Please insert the appropriate word(s) in the highlighted areas below.

A Resolution Observing Community Water Fluoridation's Anniversary

WHEREAS, January 25th of this year [marks/marked] the 70th anniversary of community water fluoridation, which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has praised as one of the 10 “great public health achievements of the 20th century”;

WHEREAS, adding fluoride to water is only one example of adding minerals or vitamins to foods or beverages as a way to prevent disease;

WHEREAS, even today, with toothpaste and other available sources of fluoride, research shows that fluoridated water reduces the rate of tooth decay by about 25 percent over a lifetime;

WHEREAS, the average number of decayed, missing or filled teeth for adults (ages 20-34) fell by more than 55 percent between 1966 and 2004, a period when fluoridation rapidly expanded to reach tens of millions of additional Americans;

WHEREAS, even with this impressive progress, the National Institutes of Health reports that tooth decay is the most common chronic disease for children and adults;

WHEREAS, having toothaches or other dental problems can disrupt children's ability to eat, sleep, speak and learn, and—if left untreated—can threaten their overall health;

WHEREAS, significant dental problems can cause adults to miss days of work or undermine their ability to find a good-paying job in the first place;

WHEREAS, [name of state] took a leadership role in [year of state law] by enacting a state law that guarantees the public's access to fluoridated water to help prevent tooth decay;

WHEREAS, research shows that every \$1 spent on fluoridation saves \$38 because it reduces the need for fillings, crowns and other dental treatments;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the [name of city or county council] reaffirms its support for community water fluoridation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the [name of city or county council] is proud through community water fluoridation to be playing a positive role that is confirmed by hundreds of studies to be effective at reducing the rate of cavities.

APPROVED on the [] day of [January/February] in the year 2015.