



**Student Government Resolution 113.002**  
**A Resolution In Support of Passing Missouri's Proposition B on November 6, 2012**  
**Sponsored by Aaron Malin, President of the Student Association**

WHEREAS,

- The Student Government is the official governing body of the Student Association and exists to represent the present and long-term best interest of the Student Association in the formulation of the University policy and in the fulfillment of the University mission; and
- Missouri has cut appropriations for public higher education institutions by 12.2% in the last three years<sup>1</sup>; and
- These cuts have translated to a direct funding loss of approximately \$102 million dollars for public higher education institutions such as Truman State University<sup>1</sup>; and
- The passage of Missouri's Proposition B on November 6, 2012 would nullify these cuts entirely<sup>2</sup>; and
- Proposition B raises Missouri's tobacco tax rate by \$0.73<sup>2</sup>; and
- Missouri's tobacco tax rate is currently \$0.17/pack, the lowest of any state in the U.S.<sup>3</sup>; and
- Iowa's current tobacco tax rate is \$1.36/pack<sup>3</sup>; and
- Illinois's current tobacco tax rate is \$1.98/pack<sup>3</sup>; and
- The average state tobacco tax per pack in the U.S. is \$1.49/pack<sup>3</sup>; and
- With the passage of Missouri's Proposition B on November 6, 2012, Missouri's tobacco tax rate would be \$0.90/pack, which would still be below the average of all U.S. states<sup>2</sup>; and
- This increase would move Missouri from the 50<sup>th</sup> highest tobacco tax rate in the nation to the 33<sup>rd</sup> highest tobacco tax rate in the nation<sup>3</sup>; and
- This may be the only chance for Missouri to raise substantial revenue in the next five years due to the current political climate in Jefferson City; and
- 30% of the revenue raised must go to higher education, with 50% going to primary and secondary education and 20% going to tobacco cessation education and programs.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT:

- Fully supports and endorses the passage of Missouri's Proposition B on November 6, 2012; and
- Will work to pass a joint resolution of support amongst the student government bodies of all major public universities and colleges in Missouri.

1 <http://tmn.truman.edu/theindex/2012/01/19/nixon-proposes-12-percent-cut/>

2 <http://www.sos.mo.gov/elections/2012ballot/PropB.asp>

3 <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0097>

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY DIRECTS THAT:

- Additional copies of this resolution are disseminated to President Troy Paino, Dean of Student Affairs Lou Ann Gilchrist, the Pickler Memorial Library Office of Special Collections, the current presidents of the student government bodies at each major public university or college in Missouri, and the Truman Media Network.

Passed September 16, 2012

By a Vote of 8-0-0



Aaron Malin  
President of the Student Association