



# TOWN OF ST. LEO

www.townofstleo-fl.gov

(352) 588-2622

Fax (352) 588-3010

email: townclerk@townofstleo-fl.gov

P.O. Box 2479 • Saint Leo, FL 33574

Office Location:

34544 State Road 52 • Saint Leo, FL 33574



## PROCLAMATION 15-05

### *Students Working Against Tobacco*

WHEREAS, addiction to tobacco products such as cigarillos, snuff, chewing tobacco, and cigarettes is harmful to one's health, and smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in the United States; almost 90% of all tobacco users begin smoking before the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, new tobacco products that target young people have been introduced, such as candy-flavored cigars, cigarillos, bidis, hookah tobacco, snus, and snuff; and only candy-flavored cigarettes have been banned by the United States Food and Drug Administration; and

WHEREAS, new candy-flavored tobacco products are easily accessible to our youth, with one convenience store for every 2,100 people, and 87% of all teens visit said stores at least two to three times per month; and

WHEREAS, candy-flavored tobacco products and candy are often displayed together, and 17-year-olds are three times more likely to use candy-flavored products; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2012 Florida Youth Tobacco Survey, during the 30 days prior to the survey, 10.6% of high school students had smoked a cigarette, 5.6% had used smokeless tobacco, 11.4% had smoked cigars, and, overall, 21.7% have tried smoking or using a flavored tobacco product at least once; and

WHEREAS, Pasco's youth tobacco smoking rates are the highest in the Tampa Bay area, especially in the use of cigars and smokeless tobacco products, which are predominantly candy-flavored.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Richard H. Christmas, as Mayor of the Town of St. Leo, Florida, on behalf of the Town Commission, and in conjunction with the youth Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) team, in regular session duly assembled, hereby urge local retailers selling tobacco where youth have access, to cease the sale and marketing of all candy-flavored tobacco products.

Duly adopted and proclaimed this 9th day of March, 2015.

  
Joan Miller, MMC, Town Clerk



  
Richard H. Christmas, Mayor