

ORDINANCE 70957

BOARD BILL NO. 229 INTRODUCED BY: ALDERWOMAN CAROL HOWARD

1 An Ordinance repealing Section One of Ordinance 48889, codified as Section
2 8.10.060 of the Revised Code of the City of St. Louis, pertaining to the payment and discount
3 of a tax imposed on cigarette merchants, and enacting in lieu thereof a new Section One of
4 Ordinance 48889.

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6 **WHEREAS**, at seventeen-cents per pack, Missouri has the lowest cigarette tax in the
7 country, making it ten times lower than the national average of \$1.73 per pack; and

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9 **WHEREAS**, Cigarette smoking is responsible for more than 480,000 deaths per year
10 in the United States, including more than 41,000 deaths resulting from secondhand smoke
11 exposure; and

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13 **WHEREAS**, the financial position of the City continues to deteriorate, as evidenced
14 by Moody's Investors Service downgrading the City's credit rating four times since 2015, and
15 the City can no longer afford to subsidize the cheapest cigarettes in the country.

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17 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS AS FOLLOWS:**

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2 **SECTION ONE.** Section One of Ordinance 48889, codified as Section 8.10.060 of the
3 Revised Code of the City of St. Louis, is hereby repealed and enacted in lieu thereof of is a
4 new Section One of Ordinance 48889, to be and read as follows:

5 8.10.060 Payment.

6 The tax provided for in Section 8.10050 shall be paid by the purchase from the license
7 collector of stamps of such design and denomination as may be prescribed by the comptroller.

8 ~~8.10.060 – Payment – Discount.~~

9 ~~The tax provided for in Section 8.10.050 shall be paid by purchase from the license~~
10 ~~collector of stamps of such design and denomination, as may be prescribed by the~~
11 ~~comptroller, and in the sale of such stamps the license collector shall allow a discount of~~
12 ~~five percent of the face value thereof.~~