

REVENUE: Revenue statement issued
FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote: 9 - 0 - 0
Yeas: Boone, Cowan, Dembrow, Freeman, Huffman, Maurer, Olson, VanOrman, Tomei
Nays: 0
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Keely West, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 1/30, 4/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Prohibits distribution of tobacco products from vending machines except in bars, taverns or lounges posted as off-limits to minors.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Effects of smoking
- Addictive effects of nicotine
- Ability of minors to purchase tobacco products without identification
- Minor access contributes to long term addiction
- Secondary costs to the system

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Allows vending machine sales in bars, taverns or lounges posted as off-limits to minors.

BACKGROUND: As of March 31, 2003 the National Cancer Institute's State Cancer Legislative Database reports that 48 states and the District of Columbia restrict youth access to tobacco by restricting access to vending machines and two states – Idaho and Vermont – had instituted bans on the sale of tobacco in vending machines. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) states that 23 percent of high school students in the United States are current cigarette smokers—23 percent of females and 22.9 percent of males. The CDC concluded that restricting youth and adult access to tobacco is a deterrent to smoking and communities that have adopted tighter restrictions have achieved greater success in preventing the purchase of tobacco by minors. Oregon's Department of Human Services reports that among eighth graders who smoke, seven percent indicate they have purchased cigarettes from vending machines.