

March 20, 2015



To: Senator Laurie Monnes-Anderson, Chair
CC: Members of the Senate Health Care Committee
From: Susan Steward, Executive Director BOMA

Testimony in Support of HB 2546 from Building Owners & Managers Association

Thank you for the opportunity for the Building Owners and Managers Association to show our support for House Bill 2546 on defining inhalant delivery systems and e-cigarettes. Below you will see several of the reasons that the adoption of 2546 is crucial for the economic and social well being and comfort of Building Owners and their tenants:

E-cigarettes cause confusion for the public on where smoking is and isn't allowed, which may cause compliance problems for Building Owners. Tenants and visitors may have incorrect perception as to whether someone is smoking an E or regular cigarette, causing confusion and potential confrontation.

E-cigarette vapor may be an annoyance to non-smokers, and allowing them to smoke in non-smoking areas may bring to question why e-cigarettes are allowed and regular aren't among employees. Both of these cause potential conflict areas.

The law must be fixed as Building Owner's cannot unilaterally prohibit e-cigarettes from their buildings. This causes individual renegotiation of leases which causes undue costs, and strife.

The State of Oregon, the Department of Transportation, and the US Air Force have all banned e-cigarette use on their properties. We believe public policy must be consistent with regulating the use of e-cigarettes in *all* public buildings/workplaces, and as such, strongly support adoption of House Bill 2546.

Thank you again for continuing to take these issues into consideration as 2546 moves forward.