



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

Charlie Hales, Mayor
Amanda Fritz, Commissioner
Nick Fish, Commissioner
Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
Steve Novick, Commissioner

March 23, 2015

Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson, Chair
Senate Committee on Health Care
900 Court St. NE, Hearing Room A
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Support for House Bill 2546-A

Dear Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee:

We write in support of House Bill 2546-A, which prohibits minors from buying or possessing inhalant delivery systems, commonly known as e-cigarettes, and updates Oregon's Clean Air Act to prohibit the use of e-cigarettes in public places.

The City of Portland is dedicated to creating healthy and safe environments for its community – especially for children and youth. E-cigarettes are currently unregulated in Oregon, and available to minors, despite the serious health risks involved. Adolescents and young adults are particularly susceptible to the addictive effects of nicotine. While cigarette smoking has decreased in Oregon, the use of e-cigarettes by teens and adults is rising.

Additionally, HB 2546-A provides important clarification to Measure 91, by banning the use of electronic inhalant delivery systems in public places regardless of the contents of the device. This provides needed clarity in the law for businesses, law enforcement, and the public.

HB 2546-A protects Oregonians from unwanted exposure to both nicotine and marijuana and promotes a healthy and safe environment for our youth.

We respectfully urge your support for HB 2546-A.

Sincerely,

Charlie Hales
Mayor

Amanda Fritz
Commissioner

Nick Fish
Commissioner

Dan Saltzman
Commissioner

Steve Novick
Commissioner