



UPSTREAM  
PUBLIC HEALTH



Oregon Public  
Health Association



## Protect Oregon's Children and Public Health— Support HB 2546B

Oregon is one of only nine states that allow minors to purchase electronic cigarettes<sup>1</sup> and there are currently **NO restrictions** on where electronic cigarettes can be used. The use of electronic cigarettes in workplaces and public places is a public health concern—studies have found a 20% degradation of indoor air quality during use of electronic cigarettes<sup>2</sup>

### Legislation Overview

**HB 2546B restricts minors' access to electronic cigarettes immediately and prohibits the use of electronic cigarettes in public places and places of employment as of January 2016.**

- Additionally, HB 2546B would require electronic cigarettes and their components to be sold in child-resistant safety packaging.
- HB 2546B would prohibit the use of cannabinoids and other substances in electronic cigarettes in public places and places of employment.
- HB 2546B asks the Oregon Health Authority to review emerging science, labeling, and national packaging standards and report to the 2019 Legislature.

**Electronic cigarettes are marketed in ways that make them especially attractive to children and youth<sup>3</sup>**

- Electronic cigarettes are marketed using celebrity endorsements and have themes of youth-rebellion and glamour.
- There are over 8,000 flavors available.

**Electronic cigarettes pose potential health impacts on users and bystanders**

Electronic cigarettes are not currently included in the Indoor Clean Air Act (ICAA) and can be used in public places and places of employment.

- Allowing electronic cigarette use in places where smoking is prohibited could complicate enforcement of the ICAA and renormalize tobacco use
- Recent studies show when electronic cigarette users exhale they emit low levels of nicotine and particulate matter into the air<sup>4</sup>
- Analyses of electronic cigarette samples found known carcinogens, and detectable levels of other toxic chemicals in first and second hand aerosol particles; including chemicals that are known to cause cancer and birth defects<sup>5 6</sup>

Clean air— free of smoke, aerosol particles, and vapor— remains the standard to protect the health of bystanders, prevent tobacco and nicotine use initiation among children and youth, and encourage complete smoking cessation.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>1</sup> National Conference of State Legislatures. 2014

<sup>2</sup> Promoting Health and Preventing Disease and Injury through Workplace Tobacco Policies. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

<sup>3</sup> World Health Organization. 2014. Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems Report

<sup>4</sup> Legacy Foundation. 2014. Tobacco Factsheet

<sup>5</sup> Oregon Public Health Division. E-Cigarette Primer

<sup>6</sup> World Health Organization. 2014. Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems Report

<sup>7</sup> Office on Smoking and Health. (2014). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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