

Please Oppose SB 754 as written

Senate Committee on Health Care
900 Court St. NE—HR B
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Committee Members

My name is Catherine Kaiser and I am writing today, Feb. 13th 2017 in opposition to SB 754 as written.

I feel You need to separate vaping from tobacco and put vaping in completely separate category of its own. I feel it is not justified for us vapers to be clumped into the same category as smoking because it does not cause cancer. I cannot find any data on people dying from vaping. Cigarettes contain over 4000 chemicals, 43 known carcinogens and 400 toxins. The science states that it is not the nicotine that kills, it is the tar that sticks to your lungs.

Vape shops are not affiliated with Big Tobacco. Big Tobacco are the ones that advertize vaping on TV, which I have seen myself, and sell their vaping pens in gas stations, convenient stores, etc. that are placed right by the cigarettes and are cheap enough for the youths to buy. Vape shops do not sell in these places where youths under 18 can see, they are only sold in Vape shops. Vaping equipment is rather expensive so I don't see many youths being able to afford that.

I am NOT proud to say that when I smoked I would give cigarettes to the youth under 18 when I was smoking outside of an establishment. There is no way I would ever give them my vape equipment, it is way too expensive for me to do that.

I am 64 yrs. old and since I started vaping over two years ago I have cut the nicotine in my e-liquid from 24mg to zero but still am able to obtain the hand to mouth habit that was imbedded in me when I smoked for 45yrs.

I do not agree with anyone under 18 smoking or vaping but I do think that is a parental issue and not a Legislative issue to parent other people's children. I believe the Government is over stepping their bounds on this.

Kids whose parents smoke are at the highest risk of starting to smoke cigarettes. My dad smoked and 2 out of 3 of my siblings smoked.

I will end by saying that vaping is not smoking and should not be objected to the same rules as combustible cigarettes. Vaping has been proven to be at least 95% less harmful than cigarettes. Please keep that in mind.

Respectfully,

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