

Hello, I am a fellow Oregonian who has a lot to lose if there is a flavor ban! Diseases from Combustible cigarettes kill roughly 450,000 Americans EVERY year! First of all I was a cigarette smoker for 13 years. I tried doing everything to quit the habit. I tried lozenges, nicotine patches, gum, prescription medication and nothing worked until 3 years ago I discovered flavored nicotine vaping. I started at a relatively high nicotine e-juice that was candy flavored, after 2 weeks I was able to put down cigarettes for good. I have now been cigarette free well over 3 years now, I have decreased my nicotine content to the lowest possible but I still enjoy the nicotine e-juice. I also vape non nicotine e-juice flavors for when I don't feel like using nicotine, I have had regular x-rays and doctor check ups & it's incredible to see my lungs heal from years of damage due to combustible cigarettes. I am going to be completely honest with you, I am in recovery from a severe opiate/heroin addiction. FLAVOR e-juice products not only helped me quit smoking cigarettes but it's allowed to turn vaping into a constructive hobby that's been extremely beneficial to my sobriety and recovery. I've watched vaping do so much good for our local Oregonian economy, we have vape shops that will no longer be able to stay open if you take away FLAVORED e-juice products from us, leaving many tax paying vape shop employees jobless. Tax paying Oregonians rely on these shops as a safe place for ADULTS to purchase FLAVORED Nicotine e-juice products instead of having to purchase illicit products off the street due to a flavor ban. There's so much potential for harm reduction thanks to FLAVORED e-juice, as I mentioned before having access to safer alternative to combustible cigarettes is imperative for our communities public health. My wife suffered from a heart infection called endocarditis that left her with a growth on her heart. the doctors told her she had a 90% mortality rate if she continued smoking cigarettes. The doctor told her a safer alternative was vaping, at first she didn't like it because she ONLY had tried tobacco e-juice flavors, I told her to try a dessert e-juice flavor which she immediately fell in love with! needless to say after 1 year of quitting cigarettes & ONLY vaping DESSERT FLAVOR e-juice the doctors x-rays showed the growth on her heart has shrunk to where it's barely detectable! The doctors believe it's because she used vaping to quit smoking cigarettes that helped her heart heal so well. I urge lawmakers in this great state of Oregon to see that the benefits of FLAVORED Nicotine e-juice products FAR outweigh the negatives. A flavor ban will be counterproductive as it will bring forth black market FLAVORED e-juice that can be deadly! It will also cost many tax paying Oregonians their jobs. It'll be detrimental to public health as people will either get sick from black market FLAVORED e-juice, or they will go back to combustible tobacco products which takes 450,000 American lives every year due to related diseases. I am an American & extremely PROUD Oregonian who has faith our leaders in Salem will see this unconstitutional flavor ban as detrimental to many aspects of our local Oregonian community. I sincerely thank you for hearing my story, it's hasn't been easy to come forth with such honesty but given the severity of the legislature at hand I found it necessary to tell my complete story of how FLAVORED e-juice products have saved my life. Thanks again for your time and consideration!

Sincerely,
Carl Gula 111