

## **CROOK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

"A Healthy and Safe Future for the People of Crook County"

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March 24, 2021

To the Honorable Rachel Prusak, Chair House Committee on Health Care;

SUBJECT: HB 2261 - Prohibiting Remote Sale of Inhalant Delivery System

- Evidence shows that reducing access to inhalant delivery devices through prohibiting online sales provides increased protection to youth from nicotine addiction.
- In 2019, the Oregon healthy teen (OHT) survey showed 8.8% of 11<sup>th</sup> graders and 6.1% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders who reported using tobacco in the last 30 days, reported using the internet to get a tobacco or vaping product.<sup>1</sup>
- Nicotine is addictive, and adolescents and young adults are more susceptible to its effects because their brains are still developing. Delaying the age when young people first experiment with or begin using tobacco can reduce the risk that they will become addicted smokers.<sup>2</sup>
- Facebook's ad policies have banned the advertising of vaping, tobacco. Instagram has banned influencers from promoting vaping and tobacco products to double down on its existing ban on companies advertising these products, yet websites are able to still sell these products.<sup>3</sup>

Nadia LeMay Tobacco Prevention & Education Program Crook County Health Department

<sup>1</sup> Oregon Healthy Teens Survey 2019 [accessed March 22, 2021] <u>https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/BIRTHDEATHCERTIFICATES/SURVEYS/OREGONHEALTHYTEENS/Docum</u> <u>ents/2019/2019%20State%20of%20Oregon%20Profile%20Report.pdf</u>

<sup>2</sup> Tobacco free Kids [accessed March 22, 2021] <u>https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/what-we-do/us/sale-age-</u> 21#:~:text=National%20data%20show%20that%20about,smoking%20before%20they%20turn%2021.

<sup>3</sup> Instagram bans influencers from getting paid to promote vaping and guns [accessed March 24, 2021] <u>https://www.cnbc.com/2019/12/18/instagram-to-ban-influencers-from-promoting-vaping-and-guns.html</u>