



RE: Tobacco Retail Licensing in Oregon  
SB 587

Chair Patterson, Vice-Chair Knopp, and members of the committee,

Our names are Io (13), Mari (14) and Ana (13) and we are residents of Portland and Happy Valley. We are writing in support of SB 587, which is for tobacco retail licensing in the state of Oregon. Here are the main reasons we support this bill:

- Tobacco can drive families apart because the chemicals in tobacco are toxic and addictive.
- Tobacco retail licensing would make it harder for youth to get tobacco as it is too easy for them to obtain it right now. Tobacco has a negative impact on teens because second hand smoke can cause health problems such as asthma and lung cancer. Teens can be influenced by community members who are smoking.
- Corner stores should be licensed because many are in food desert areas and many people are buying all their food at the corner stores. It's not good that there are also cigarettes sold there. Many teens will go to corner stores to buy chips or snacks so having tobacco products right in front of them is not okay.

Please pass SB 587, which would establish tobacco retail licensing across Oregon. It will help protect vulnerable youth and communities of color. We want change.

Sincerely,  
Ana  
Mari  
Io

*\*\* This letter was written with the help of Vibrant Future Coalition during their virtual advocacy summer camp. Vibrant Future Coalition is a coalition in North Clackamas and East Multnomah Counties that strives to educate and create community-wide change in order to reduce youth substance use.*