

Submitter: Kari Hampton

On Behalf Of: ACS CAN

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB3090

Oregon HB 3090 ACS CAN volunteer testimony template:

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Nelson and Goodwin, and members of the committee, My name is Kari Hampton and I'm with the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network. We urge your support of HB 3090 to end the sale of menthol cigarettes and all other flavored tobacco products in Oregon. All products, all flavors, all locations, no exceptions.

Prevention is the greatest tool we have in public health. Tobacco-related illness remains the number one cause of preventable death in Oregon. Over 8,000 Oregonians will die of smoking-related illness this year. According to the CDC and the Oregon Health Authority, 95% of adults who smoke first started before the age of 21, but fewer than 25% of these same adults use any form of flavored product, while 85% of youth who smoke started use a flavored product, and 80% exclusively use a flavored product.

By removing these flavored tobacco products, fewer children will be tempted to try them for the first time, avoiding a lifetime of addiction, illness, and death.

I support improving tobacco control in Oregon because I lost my grandfather to lung cancer and 6 years later, my grandmother was diagnosed with cancer caused by 2nd hand smoke. I am also a parent of a child who had cancer. My daughter was diagnosed with leukemia in 2019. No parent should ever have to hear those 4 lifechanging words, "your child has cancer." By ending the sale of flavored tobacco products in Oregon, you will help prevent our youth from becoming the next generation of tobacco users and potential cancer patients.

Please vote yes on HB 3090 and end the sale of all flavored tobacco products with no exemptions in Oregon. Your leadership will save lives.

Thank you,  
Kari Hampton