

Submitter: Holly Vanni

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB3090

March 20, 2023

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice-Chairs Nelson and Goodwein, and members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care:

I am writing in support of HB 3090, the Preventing Nicotine Addiction bill, which will protect our youth and our communities by ending the sale of all flavored tobacco products.

Tobacco use is personal for me as a parent of teenagers and as a physician who treats patients with lung diseases caused by tobacco and nicotine.

Youth are being attracted to tobacco use through flavored products. While product names like Cotton Candy and Tutti Fruitti sound harmless, they are very dangerous. The use of electronic cigarettes is an epidemic in our state, and in our nation. More than 3 million middle and high school students use tobacco and e-cigarettes. 85% of youth e-cigarette users use flavored products.

Tobacco is the leading cause of preventable death and disease in Oregon, killing over 8,000 Oregonians a year.

Nicotine is highly addictive and can harm adolescent brain development. Action is needed now to protect youth, protect health, and avoid a lifetime of addiction.

I ask for your support for HB 3090. This legislation is a good step to protect youth across Oregon from nicotine addiction, tobacco and e-cigarette use.

Thank you for your service and for your consideration,

Holly Vanni, MD

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