

Submitter: Ron Squires
On Behalf Of: Oregon Retailers and wholesalers
Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care
Measure: HB3090

My name is Ron Squires, I am the branch president for Harbor Wholesale in Portland OR. I oppose any and all flavor bans of any product that is legal to buy and sell to an adult 21 and over. We have many more important issues that need your attention. Homeless, behavioral issues, suicide, crime and drug use are the issues that the public wants you to work on. Youth smoking and tobacco use is at an all time low. The people submitting testimony tonight are not big tobacco or lobbyists, they are Oregon businesses trying to survive in a very difficult environment. You can use Heroine, Cocaine, Fentanyl, Meth in Oregon and maybe get a \$100 fine but you will not be able to get a strawberry cigar? Does this make sense to you? You must be 21 years old to purchase Tobacco, kids are getting this product illegally, why are we not imposing fines on the friends and family who supply this product to them? We know that the retailers who sell the product do a good job of keeping tobacco products away from people under 21 years of age. In Oregon, you can buy flavors of marijuana such as, sour patch kids, birthday cake, orange creamsicle and lemon Kush. Alcohol flavors are caramel apple, vanilla, honey, cinnamon, peach, peanut butter, chocolate, strawberry, too many to list, who are they selling too? As an adult in Oregon, I do not want you to ban flavors of any product that is legal to sell. All of these products I have listed should not be sold to anyone under the age of 21, which is why we have a legal age limit. All the doctors in the room say tobacco is unhealthy, I think they would agree alcohol, drugs, and marijuana are also not healthy to our youth. Oregon, has one of the highest independent convenience store ratio in the nation and 90% of them are minority owners. Many of the people supporting HB 3090 here today are getting paid by an employer or some kind of credit to be here. All of the retailers that are here tonight are paying someone to watch their store so they can oppose HB 3090. Please do not ban flavors of anything.

Thank you,
Portland DC, President
Ron Squires