

Submitter: D Gonzalez

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB3090

To Whom it May Concern,

As a nurse who works with youth I would like to offer my support of this bill. As I went around putting up posters in a high school today to help students who vape learn about resources for quitting, it struck me that we should be doing more to reduce the initiation of youth starting smoking. While we won't stop all youth from smoking, if it were less desirable it could have an effect on the initiation rate. Information reported by Oregon Health Authority shows that youth initiation into smoking using flavored e-cigarettes is well above traditional cigarettes (Oregon Health Authority). Additionally, it's argued that e-cigarettes are less regulated by the government by allowing flavors that are no longer allowed nationally among traditional cigarettes (Oregon Health Authority). I read a recent article that talked about the FDA refusing to allow the sale of specific menthol flavored vaping devices. Citing as one of the reasons for denial of the product is that flavored tobacco is a risk factor for "appeal, uptake and use" among youth and that it doesn't add any health benefit to the adult public (U.S. Food and Drug Administration). My hope is that Oregon can be a leader in championing youth health over company profit, and help to regulate the e-cigarette's that are available to youth just like traditional cigarettes.

Thank you!

Citations:

Oregon Health Authority Public Health Division, Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention Section. Oregon tobacco facts. Available at <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/preventionwellness/tobaccoprevention/pages/oregon-tobacco-facts.aspx>.

US Food and Drug Administration (2023, March 17). FDA Denies Marketing of Two Vuse Solo Menthol E-Cigarette Products. <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-denies-marketing-two-vuse-solo-menthol-e-cigarette-products>