

Submitter: Colleen Valley

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB3090

Growing up in the 60's and 70's my mother smoked Salem cigarettes. She started smoking in high school and continued until I was 21 years old. I begged her, often with tears to stop smoking because I didn't want her to die. I was lucky. The first time she had to go to the hospital and receive a breathing treatment from a machine, she decided to quit. She hasn't had a cigarette since and is still with us.

Smoking and now vaping are still considered "cool". My son has told me that there are more kids than not smoking and vaping at his high school. Flavored items are their first choice. Oregon needs to stand for the health of our children and ban flavored tobacco in our state. Not only do flavored tobacco items target kids, they are expensive and will lead to major health problems in the future. We need to ban these items and educate kids and adults that just because these products "taste great" they are still a danger to their health.

Thank you for your time and consideration.