

Submitter: Ryan Kuhn

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB3090

I fail to see what this measure will accomplish, the idea of banning flavored vapes in Oregon to prevent them getting in the hands of teenagers raises the question of why aren't we banning cigarettes as well then? Vape shops I.D all of their customers, so the only way they are obtaining them is from adults who purchase them.

Furthermore by banning flavored vape you're saying that it's ok if these teens are getting ahold of cigarettes instead. Personally I feel adults should be responsible and understand that if they are purchasing for a minor they are committing a crime and should therefore be punished for it. Who shouldn't be punished is the honest business owners and employees who will lose their livelihood because of our governments misguided opinions.

Vaping has given not only a massive amount of taxes to the state but a second lease on life for those who used it to quit smoking as a healthier alternative to their addiction to nicotine. I know countless people in my community who smoked for 10-40 years who now don't feel like they have to pump through a pound of tar in their lungs just to breathe. This measure will take away that freedom they finally have from big tobacco.

Not to mention prohibition in American history has never lead to good things. By removing something that's already heavily regulated you're opening a market of home produced products which can be dangerous for the public who have no other alternative, not to mention raising the crime rate. I urge you to think deeply on this, is banning something that's helped millions truly worth it when the alternative is cigarettes which have killed 6 million people annually. Choose the safer option, and let adults have their flavors.