

**Adam Khosroabadi**  
**Milwaukie City Council**

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Representative Rob Nosse, Chair  
House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care  
900 Court St NE, Salem, OR 97301

Honorable Chair Nosse and Members of the Committee

I write to you in support of SB 3090 as the use of flavored tobacco continues to plague our youth. This epidemic is nation wide with little movement at the Federal level to get legislation done, leaving it to States to lead the front. I am both encouraged and grateful that Oregon leaders have chosen to do the same.

As a former tobacco user who started at a young age, I know first hand the dangers of this harmful addiction and what it can do to a child. I am deeply concerned for the children in our city as well as our county as they continue to be preyed upon by the tobacco industry. This is leading our kids down a dangerous path. In Milwaukie, there have even been instances of children going as far as stealing from local convenient stores just to get their hands on it. The time for action to protect our kids is now. I implore you not to delay.

I would also ask that this bill not stop at a ban of flavored tobacco, but also look at prohibiting the sale of any tobacco products within a determined distance of a school or playground. Access is a big part of the problem. In both the city of Milwaukie and unincorporated Milwaukie, 9 tobacco retailers are within 1,000 feet of a school while 41 are with .5 miles (a 10 minute walk). My fear is also that, once the ban goes into effect, what will stop the stores that strictly sell flavored tobacco, such as vapes, from changing their business model to a tobacco/smoke shop? Having a prohibition on proximity will greatly reduce the chances of our youth accessing these toxic and harmful products.

This legislation has nothing to do with limiting choices for adults, but everything to do with protecting our youth. I thank the Committee for the opportunity to testify and appreciate your time. Thank you.

Sincerely



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