

**Re: Support for Senate Bill 702 – Protecting Our Children from Flavored Tobacco**

Dear Chair Reynolds and Members of the Committee,

As a mother of two children—one in middle school and the other in high school—I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 702, which would ban the sale of all flavored tobacco products in Oregon. This legislation is critical to protecting our children from the dangers of nicotine addiction and the harmful effects of vaping and smoking.

Like many parents, I worry about the growing influence of flavored tobacco products on our youth. These products are designed to entice kids, with sweet flavors like cotton candy, mango, and mint masking the harsh reality of nicotine. Despite my best efforts to educate my children about the dangers of tobacco, I know how easy it is for them to be exposed to and pressured into trying these products.

The tobacco industry has a long history of targeting young people, and flavored tobacco is their latest tool to hook a new generation. We cannot stand by and allow this to continue. Senate Bill 702 is a necessary step to reduce youth tobacco use, protect their developing brains, and prevent lifelong addiction and health consequences.

I urge you to support this bill and prioritize the health and future of Oregon's children over the profits of the tobacco industry. Thank you for your time and commitment to protecting our kids.

Sincerely,

Dana Bishara