

February 26, 2026

Oregon State Senate
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Pass SB 1571 and Protect Oregon's Youth

Dear Chair Bowman and members of the Committee:

As a mom of a teenager and public health professional, I support regulation of oral nicotine pouches in Oregon and urge the Committee to support SB 1571.

Nicotine pouches are small packets containing nicotine powder, flavorings, and other chemicals. Placed between the lip and gum, they deliver nicotine directly through the lining of the mouth. Like all nicotine products, they are highly addictive. Flavors such as mint, mango, and berry - combined with their small, easy-to-conceal design - make them especially appealing to youth.

Heavily marketed on social media and often cheaper than other tobacco products, nicotine pouches are an inexpensive way for the tobacco industry to hook a new generation.

In Oregon, regulatory loopholes make them even more accessible. Retailers do not need a license to sell nicotine pouches, and online sales are allowed, with age verification left to sellers. In 2024, 1.8% of U.S. middle and high school students reported current use, and rates are rising.

Senate Bill 1571 would close these gaps by regulating nicotine pouches like other tobacco products - prohibiting online sales, requiring licensed retailers, and limiting purchases to those 21 and older.

Benton County already regulates oral nicotine pouches through a retail licensing requirement and limiting purchases to those 21 and older. Prohibiting online sales is needed. I urge Oregon to adopt statewide protections to protect young people and ensure consistency across communities.

Thank you,

Sara Hartstein
Corvallis, OR