

CITY OF

PORTLAND, OREGON

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

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February 16, 2017

Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson, Chair Senate Committee on Health Care 900 Court Street, NE, Hearing Room B Salem, OR 97301

RE: SB 754

Dear Senator Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee:

The City of Portland offers its support for raising the age of sale for tobacco products to 21, as proposed by SB 754. Research by the Institute of Medicine finds that raising the minimum age of legal access to tobacco products results in a significant drop in both youth initiation to smoking and overall smoking. In order to meet desired public health outcomes and reduce illness, disability, and death related to tobacco use and secondhand smoke exposure, the City of Portland urges your support for SB 754.

Thank you for consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Edwards Interim Director