

Providence Health & Services
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February 4, 2020

The Honorable Andrea Salinas
Chair, House Health Care Committee
State Capitol
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Support House Bill 4078 – Prohibit remote sale of inhalant delivery systems

Dear Chair Salinas and members of the committee:

Providence Health & Services is committed to finding new ways to create healthier communities, together. Fulfilling this vision will require the adoption of proactive public policy solutions that promote healthy decision-making among Oregonians. Prohibiting the sale of inhalant delivery systems by mail, telephone, and internet is such a solution, and Providence strongly urges your support for House Bill 4078.

Through direct education with families and in collaboration with schools districts, Providence is working to educate our communities about the dangers of e-cigarette use. Elevating the severity of this problem is urgent and will require more than just medical education and interventions. By eliminating online sales through House Bill 4078, Oregon has a better chance of:

- Preventing children from buying products online – We must close this loophole. Through our collaboration with Oregon high-schools and the 2019 Oregon Healthy Teens Survey, we understand how easy it can be for kids to buy these products online.
- Ensuring compliance with Tobacco 21 – In 2017, the Oregon legislature came together to increase the minimum age to purchase tobacco and vaping products. In that time, according to the 2019 Oregon Healthy Teens Survey, we have seen the use of vaping products increase by 10% among 11th grade youth.

We need to reverse these alarming trends. Providence hopes you'll join us in supporting of this legislation to improve the well-being of Oregon's children. Thank you for the opportunity to discuss this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jessica Adamson".

Jessica Adamson
Director, Government Affairs
Providence Health & Services - Oregon