

Hello. My name is Christopher Ferreira and I represent the Oregon Vapor Trade Association. The Oregon Vapor Trade Association is a nonprofit organization representing manufacturers, wholesalers, distributors, and retailers of NICOTINE vapor products for the state of Oregon. We are a consortium of these member companies that share a vision of unity regarding state and federal level advocacy programs and tobacco harm reduction with emphasis on public education.

The Oregon Vapor Trade Association supports this bill. Bill SB587 which seeks to license qualified retailers of tobacco products and inhalant delivery systems. The OVTA feels this bill will work towards reducing the availability of tobacco products and inhalant delivery systems to persons under 21 years of age by ensuring retailer compliance with state and local ordinances.

Our group of owner members feels this is a good step and will weed out “bad actors.” We also feel that ability to revoke licensure for noncompliance is critical to this mission. The Oregon Vapor Trade Association would like to thank the committee for taking this into account and providing the proper language to set this precedent and secure the safety of our children.

Legitimizing an industry proven to show a positive net health gain while providing the best-known harm reduction tool for adults on the market is exactly the kind of progressive legislation this industry needs. The OVTA would like to thank this committee and the signers of SB587 for their vision of Oregon's future and their drive to secure it.

On behalf of the Oregon Vapor Trade Association, I would also like to personally thank you for taking the time to hear my testimony.

Christopher D Ferreira  
Oregon Vapor Trade Association  
Chair