

March 19, 2023

Dear Chair Nosse, Vice-Chairs Nelson and Goodwein, and members of the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care:

I am writing in support of HB 3090, the Preventing Nicotine Addiction bill, which will protect our youth and our communities by ending the sale of all flavored tobacco products.

Tobacco use is personal for me as I am a two-time lung cancer survivor, and 2 of my 3 siblings received a lung cancer diagnosis as well. Our beautiful younger sister lost her life to the disease.

My siblings and I grew up during a time when everyone smoked. We were young and influenced by the marketing of the tobacco companies; consequently, we became smokers. We were lured to the habit by the appeal of smoking in ads in magazines and on billboards and television. It was very similar to today's marketing of vaping and flavored tobacco products on social media and at concerts.

Back then and now, it was cool and hip and the thing to do. But back then we did not know how dangerous smoking and tobacco use was. Today we do.

Like me and my siblings, the young vapors of today run the risk of becoming addicted to nicotine products and elevating their risk of lung cancer or other diseases of the lungs.

I have dedicated my time in recent years as an advocate, educating and getting our at-risk populations screened for lung cancer. I'm passionate about ensuring everyone has healthy lungs.

That's why I'm so very concerned about the growing epidemic of youth vaping and the harmful effects on their lungs.

We can do more to protect our youth from a lifetime of nicotine addiction and help ensure they don't make the same mistakes my siblings and I made decades ago.

I understand you are considering restricting the sale of flavored tobacco products to discourage their use by today's youth. You have my wholehearted support on HB 3090 and I strongly urge you to take this step and protect our youth. This legislation is a good step to protect youth across Oregon from nicotine addiction, tobacco and e-cigarette use.

Thank you for your service and for your consideration!

Glenna Marshall
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