

Submitter: Frank A

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB3090

Dear Chairman and other members of the committee,

My name is Frank and I am the owner of a convenience store in Washington County.

I bought my store 13 years ago and I've worked very hard to make the store function during that time. The store has four employees, including my wife and myself, so we rely heavily on the store's sales.

As everybody knows Washington county has a very strict policy regarding minors' access to tobacco and they check all retailers constantly through sting operations. We've never had a single violation to be recorded. No minors have any access to any nicotine products in our store.

Flavored tobacco products are a primary part of our business, and losing that will result in the failure of the entire business and subsequently, the goodwill of my store will drop significantly. The experience of Washington County's flavored tobacco ban showed that the value of my store dropped to less than half of what I originally paid. Passing this bill will result in business and assets loss for us and create a lot of problems for the adults using flavored tobacco products. And still, minors will get their tobacco through whatever way they do it now and worse than that through the dangerous unchecked black market that will definitely come into existence.

Please do not pass HB 3090.

Thank you,

Frank, a convenience store owner in Washington County