

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you in vehement opposition to HB 3090, the ban on flavored nicotine products. Even I believe that this will fall of deaf ears, and that you in the legislature have already made up your minds and this is all just a formality at this point, even if there is the smallest of chances to get you folks to listen to reason, then I have to do what I can.

There is so much wrong in this bill, I barely know where to start.

You say this is all about the children, to protect their future, well, what about MY future? I am currently in the process of quitting smoking by using vapor products. My breathing has improved, as well as my blood pressure and cardiovascular activity. The flavors that have allowed this to happen. Cigarettes taste terrible, and Tobacco flavored vapes taste even worse. Now you are taking those flavors from me, and I will end up just smoking, and you all will be paying for my ongoing healthcare. I am literally 1 person out of several hundreds of thousands you will be doing this too, remember that. You are dooming 2 generations who are alive now to a lifetime of health issues, which we already know exist, because worried about a generation coming up behind us, using a product that is way less harmful than combustible tobacco?

Which leads me on to point 2. I live in a state where a minor can just as easily get their hands on marijuana products. The average cost of a vape bar, the main driver of youth vaping, is approximately \$25.00, but a minor can just as easily get 100mg of pure THC gummies for \$10.00, which in those amounts I believe are far more devastating for kids, but I see nothing being done even close to curbing that activity as you are with flavored tobacco and vapes? How does this make any sense in your world? You want to know why everyone hates politicians? As the famous comedian said, "well your sign!"

Never mind how many flavored alcohol products on the market? Doesn't that make you all complicit in underage drinking as well?

Truth is I don't blame you all at all for that, if anything it just proves a simple point you can't argue or ignore. ADULTS LIKE FLAVORED THINGS TOO!

Now let's talk about economic impact. First, how in the hell can you folks be poised to pass an emergency bill, and you have no financial impact study available? Wish us regular folks lived in your worlds, where we can make decisions in our lives with no thought given whatsoever to how it will impact us? Even worse, your impact millions of people, not just a family.

I am quite familiar with small store operations, and I understand the margins in which they operate. We are about to enter a devastating recession, and here you folks are pre-emptively costing tens of thousands of Oregonian jobs to be lost? How many small businesses are you going to be closing the doors on by passing this? How many small towns are going to lose their local stores, some of which are the only store in town to get their groceries and what not from. You think that taking these products off the shelves of these stores cause that kind of impact? I have some real world knowledge for you. That guy that comes into a small store and buys his

flavored cigarettes, or cigars, or vape, he also buys other things like lunch, or snacks. The point is you will be doing far more to these businesses just taking a few products off the shelves. You will be causing them to lay off employees because they can no longer afford them, and in many cases, making them close their stores entirely.

Now talk science. We all know smoking is bad for us, and that chewing can lead to throat cancer, nobody is going to argue that point, it would be silly.

You all should be embracing and welcoming emerging technologies that help prevent this. We have synthetic nicotine products like Zyn, and Rogue for those that chew, and vaping for smokers, all help lifelong smokers and chewers get away from the tobacco products that we know kill. You seem worried about kids vaping, when you should be looking towards a world where nobody smokes combustible tobacco anymore, because they prefer on their own these less harmful forms. You are all hell bent on setting that goal back literally decades. I have literally witnessed friends, family, and hundreds of others stop smoking or chewing because of these products, that cannot be denied.

Instead, you will send all those people back to smoking and chewing. You know full well you take menthol away from cigarettes, that person will just switch to smoking non menthol, which most of us know that you all know that as well. Your tax intake t change much from passing this bill, if anything you will get even more due to the extra Master Settlement Agreement big tobacco will be giving you as more packs of cigarettes will be sold again. You get to act like you really care, as you push everyone back to the products that were killing them. And like clockwork, these kids you say trying to save will be smoking cigarettes behind the school again. Simple fact is if you really believed that tobacco is deadly, and you risk the next generation of dying to , then you would ban them all entirely, but you also know you afford the revenue loss, nor could you face the full backlash from the smoking public. This is why politicians are seen as hypocrites.

Stop being stereotypical for once and start using common sense. If ID checking, and restricting where products like Marijuana and Alcohol is sold is good enough for you to keep minors from these products, then apply the exact same logic to these tobacco products. Anything else is just standard hypocrisy we have all come to expect from politicians.

I will end on this simple thought. There is no evidence that Vaping and synthetic nicotine usage is more harmful than combustible cigarettes. I believe on the contrary, that is by far far less harmful. been around for 15 years, and I personally know nobody who has suffered medical problem directly linked to usage of these products, but I know generations of my family who have to smoking and chewing.

What if we are right, and you all are wrong? Passing this bill could condemn millions of your constituents, current and future, to die, all because you folks see the forest the trees. Want to be progressive? Embrace current and future technologies that will end this epidemic once and for all!

