



March 4, 2025

2025 PHAB Members

Lindsay Atagi
Sarah Baron
Logan Clausen
Erin Gage Fitzpatrick
Sharity Ludwig
Tami Pike
Robert Ross
Colleen Sinsky
Ruth Vernotico

For More Information

Please visit:

<https://www.deschutes.org/health/page/public-health-advisory-board>



Re: Support for Senate Bill 702 – Ban on flavored inhalant delivery system products and flavored tobacco products in Oregon

Chair Reynolds, Vice-Chair Anderson, and Members of the Senate Committee on Early Childhood and Behavioral Health:

The Deschutes County Public Health Advisory Board (PHAB) strongly supports Senate Bill 702 to finally end the sale of flavored inhalant delivery systems and flavored tobacco products in Oregon. Flavored products continue to be the preferred nicotine source for youth, whose first experiences using tobacco or vaping products primarily involves flavors.

In Deschutes County, 80% of our 11th graders who have used tobacco before reported using a flavored tobacco or vaping product their first time. Using these harmful products possess a serious risk to young people, since developing brains of adolescents are especially vulnerable to addictive effects while their brains are still developing. Negative lasting effects on adolescent brain development includes making it difficult to concentrate, learn, and control impulses. Also, research shows that youth are at a higher risk of smoking cigarettes and other related products when inhalant delivery systems were used at a young age.

Ending the sale of flavored tobacco products and inhalant delivery systems is the most effective way to reduce the risk of lifelong health consequences for young people. Therefore, the Deschutes County PHAB highly recommends support of Senate Bill 702 to insure a healthier future for our youth and future generations.

Sincerely,

Robert Ross MD; MScEd

Robert Ross, MD, PHAB Chair
rgross@stcharleshealthcare.org

Colleen Sinsky, MSW, PHAB Vice Chair
csinsky@centraloregonfuse.org

To promote and protect the health and safety of our community.

2577 NE Courtney Dr. Bend, Oregon 97701

Thomas.Kuhn@deschutes.org www.deschutes.org