

March 4, 2025

Senator Lisa Reynolds Senate Early Childhood and Behavioral Health Committee

RE: Support for SB 702

Dear Chair Reynolds and members of the committee,

I am writing to you in support of SB 702. It is time to finally end the sale of all flavored tobacco products, including menthol, hookah, and e-cigarettes, in the State of Oregon. All products, all flavors, all locations, no exceptions.

Flavored tobacco products are explicitly used to hook a new generation of young people into a lifetime of addiction, illness, and death. These largely unregulated products can have more nicotine in them than an entire pack of cigarettes. According to the Oregon Health Authority's annual tobacco retail license report, local retailers have demonstrated that they are unable or unwilling to do what is necessary to keep our children safe.

Leaders in Multnomah and Washington County have already taken bold steps toward removing these products from store shelves. Every community in Oregon deserves those levels of protection from this predatory industry. Now is the time to act bravely and decisively.

I am proud to add my voice to a chorus of local elected officials from across Oregon urging the State Legislature to prioritize the health of our community over an immoral industry that is directly leading to the deaths of over 8,000 Oregonians every year.

Sincerely

Jamie Dunphy
Councilor, District

City of Portland