

Submitter: Jonathan Christopherson

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Early Childhood and Behavioral Health

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB702

Hello, I'm Jonathan Christopherson and I strongly oppose the Oregon vapor ban. Vapes have been the only thing to consistently keep me personally and many others I know from going back to smoking to cigarettes. Every adult should have the choice of how they will consume nicotine if it's a legal substance, and that goes for flavors included. While flashy, and very common, the flavors are not made or marketed in a way to be extra appealing to children either. Having worked in the cannabis and tobacco industry, many many adults prefer added flavoring when consuming these products.

This is also no different from flavored cannabis, hemp wraps or flavored alcohol. If we were to use the same reasonings I have seen stated for this ban, then that same logic should apply to all of the industries. With brands like Pepsi now making hard sodas, that are marketed and advertised in almost the exact same way as regular soda, which is a very child driven market. I would argue that this is even more appealing to minors, and forms the association to the adult version much sooner. Vapes right now are also one of the main sources of revenue for the business I work for, and there are plenty of private businesses that would not be able to continue operation without that revenue. The economic impact and job displacement alone will be measurable, and many local businesses legally selling these devices and products will suffer and often close because of this.

Please keep choice in the hand of the adults making the decision and don't ban flavored inhalant systems. Oregon businesses and residents will thank you.

Regards,

John Christopherson