

Submitter: Marlo McIlraith
On Behalf Of: Oregon Pediatric Society
Committee: Senate Committee On Early Childhood and Behavioral Health
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB702

I am writing in support of SB702 restricting the sale of flavored tobacco products. As a pediatrician that cares for many teens in my community, I am very concerned about the high number of kids starting to use these products at such young ages when the risk of addiction is so high. I have had many patients struggle to stop using them only a few years after starting. The lifelong health risks are just so high and the likelihood of them successfully quitting goes down the earlier they start. Flavored products, especially vape and Zyn are particularly attractive for the younger ages and restricting these would make a big difference in the age at which many would start using. I am also the mom of a 15 year old boy and the explosion of Zyn use in the high school right now is shocking. We must attempt to slow down the use in these young ages by making them less attractive and harder to obtain.