

Submitter: Ryan Kuhn

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB702

This law makes no sense, banning Flavors won't stop people under the age of 21 from obtaining or wanting nicotine or THC products. High school aged teenagers have been finding ways to obtain cigarettes regardless of age requirements or flavors since the first age restrictions were implemented on such products. Prohibition never works, never has worked, and never will work. It's easy to point a finger at flavored vapor products as a bad guy because they are popular however the point stands that teens have been smoking cigarettes and will continue to find ways to get ahold of them. If someone wants to break a law they will. Banning flavored vapes is not just a mistake but a very stupid one. California banned flavors and what did Californians start doing? They started getting them from states where it's not banned.

Furthermore Once something exists and the technology is understood you cannot stop the people from making it themselves and selling it in a black market fashion, all this law will do is create more crime, more teens paying homeless or older family members to purchase these items for them, as well as people making the devices themselves which is dangerous. Right now we have regulations that ensure better safety in the design of vapes for the protection of the consumer.

Not to mention flavors aren't for kids, I'm in my thirties and having flavors made it so much easier to quit cigarettes. Your use of "Teens are vaping" as the big scare tactic is really just your corporate lobbyists from big tobacco companies trying to get rid of their main competition. Monopolies aren't ok in America unless they pay the government tons of money first is all this seems like to the average consumer. This pathetic attempt to tug on the heart strings of the voter is just window dressing for you lining your pockets with money from Marlboro.

Lastly, moving vape products into Liquor stores is just going to further the alcohol problem America is already dealing with. With vape stores which are already a 21 and older store anyway we can more easily curb the effects of alcoholism in Oregon.