

Submitter: Thomas Busse

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB702

I am a resident of sponsor Isadore's district, and I live in the Northwest neighborhood of Portland.

I frequently work late both for my day job and because of my side gig as a professional classical musician, and there is a corner store on NW 21st street from me that is open late hours for me to obtain late snacks, meals, and household items such as cat food. The staff is very professional and is fully compliant with verifying ID's for tobacco products. I fear this bill would put them out of business for no public benefit causing individuals who work in this bill's district to become unemployed in favor of the state's monopoly stores run by well-connected cronies who can afford to pay staffers at the corrupt OLCC kickbacks. It would cut me off from a critical source of paper towels and emergency tampons by making the corner store business model unworkable.

I would really like to see the evidence that flavored vaping products are a "gateway" to children. I have yet to see a teenager ever crave the flavor of cloves. As an experienced opera singer, I am well accustomed to the inhaling impacts of theatrical smoke and fog effects, which are the same chemicals used in vaping products, which were originally developed as a quit-smoking aid. I also fear this bill, by cutting off the public from vaping products, will increase cancer rates because this bill retains widespread access to actual burnt tobacco with its polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons such as benzopyrene as well as tar.

I am absolutely disgusted to be represented by the sponsor of this bill. She is becoming as stupid as I thought she was when I didn't vote for her.