

Submitter:

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On Behalf Of:

Committee:

Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue

Measure, Appointment or Topic:

SB702

From a consumer standpoint, I oppose this policy because it unfairly limits adult choice and may lead to unintended negative consequences. Adults should have the right to make informed decisions about what legal products they choose to use. Flavored tobacco and inhalant products, while not without risk, are legally purchased by consenting adults who prefer flavors over traditional options. Banning these products across most outlets strips consumers of choice and pushes them toward either unflavored alternatives they don't want or, worse, illegal markets with no oversight or safety standards.

This ban would also hurt small businesses that rely on the sale of flavored products for a significant portion of their revenue, especially local convenience stores and vape shops that are not "established" stores under the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission. These businesses may be forced to close or lay off employees, harming the local economy.

Lastly, this kind of ban may not even reduce youth vaping. Studies show that underage users often obtain products through social sources rather than stores. Instead of blanket bans, smarter enforcement and education would be more effective in keeping these products out of minors' hands while preserving consumer choice for adults.