

Submitter: Naresh Kumar
On Behalf Of: C- Store
Committee: Senate Committee On Finance and Revenue
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB702

I hope you're doing well. I'm writing to share something that's been weighing heavily on my heart. With the recent passing of the vape ban in Oregon, I'm facing the reality that my job and livelihood are at serious risk.

As you know, I've worked at a convenience store for years. It's not just a job to me—it's where I've built relationships with regular customers, provided for my family, and played a small part in my community. A significant portion of the business comes from selling vape products and nicotine pouches. These items aren't just products; they've been a solution for many of our customers looking for a healthier alternative to smoking.

But with the new ban, those products are being taken away, and along with them, the foundation of my job. People who've relied on vaping to quit smoking, who've found solace in the small rituals of using a Zyn pouch, will no longer have access to what's helped them. For many, these products aren't just a choice—they've been a lifeline. Now, that lifeline is being ripped away, and it feels like I'm losing more than just my job.

I'm not sure what the future holds, but I can't help but feel devastated by the thought of the struggles my customers will face and the uncertainty of my own situation. I've worked hard to build trust with people, and now it feels like that trust is being undermined by a law that doesn't seem to understand the impact it has on real lives.

Thank you for listening. I just wanted to share my feelings and the uncertainty that this ban has created for so many of us.

Sincerely,
Naresh Kumar