



PUBLIC HEALTH

PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.

February 11, 2026

Oregon State Senate
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Pass SB 1571 and Protect Oregon's Youth

Dear Chair Prozanski, Vice Chair Thatcher, and members of the Committee:

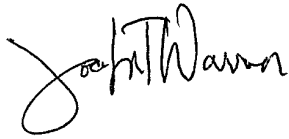
My name is Jocelyn Warren, I am the Public Health Administrator for Lane County. Lane County supports the regulation of oral nicotine pouches in Oregon and urges the Committee to support Senate Bill 1571.

Nicotine pouches are packets of nicotine powder, flavorings, and other chemical substances that are placed inside the mouth, between the lip and gum, and nicotine is then absorbed through the lining of the mouth. As with all nicotine products, nicotine pouches are highly addictive and, like e-cigarettes, are made appealing to youth by adding flavorings such as watermelon, citrus, and mint. Flavored, easy-to-conceal products heavily marketed to youth on social media – nicotine pouches have joined e-cigarettes on the shelf but this newest entry from the tobacco industry is also cheaper than e-cigarettes. Nicotine pouches are cheap to make *and* cheaper than most tobacco products to buy. With nicotine pouches, the tobacco industry has found yet another innovative way to trap a new generation of young people in nicotine addiction.

But that's not all – because of regulation loopholes in the state of Oregon, nicotine pouches are more easily available to youth than other products. Nicotine pouches do not require a license to sell, and sales therefore are exempt from oversight. Online sales are not banned in the state, and the tobacco industry and other retailers must be trusted to verify age. In 2024, 1.8% of US middle and high school students reported current use of nicotine pouches *and* use is increasing rapidly. To help stem this increase, Senate Bill 1571 would close the regulation

loopholes for nicotine pouches in Oregon by making them subject to the same regulation and oversight as other tobacco and nicotine products in the state. No online sales, purchases only from licensed retailers, and only to those aged 21 and older.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jocelyn T. Warren". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jocelyn" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Warren".

Jocelyn T. Warren, PhD, MPH
Public Health Administrator