



To: Chair Senator Prozanski and members of Senate Committee On Judiciary

Re: Support SB1571

Date: 02/11/2026

Latino Network was founded in 1996 by advocates for the needs of the growing Latinx community in Multnomah County. Since then, these grassroots beginnings have evolved into a continuum of services that support Latinx individuals, families, and communities. Our programs currently focus on education, advocacy & leadership, health & wellness, economic justice, youth empowerment & violence prevention, and arts & culture, engaging nearly 11,000 community members throughout Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington Counties in the last year. We are the leading culturally-specific provider for Latinx youth, parent, and family services in the Portland area with the goal of serving the nearly 19% of Oregon's population who identify as Latinx or Hispanic.

Latino Network currently provides direct services to youth and families in Senate Districts 13-15 and 19-25 and House Districts 25, 26, 28, 29, 37, 40 and 42-50.

Please support SB 1571 common sense regulation of nicotine pouches in Oregon. Senate Bill 1571 is a critical step in protecting Oregon's youth—particularly those in Hispanic and Latino communities—from the harmful and predatory tactics of the tobacco industry. Flavored tobacco products, including menthol cigarettes and fruit- and candy-flavored e-cigarettes, are specifically designed to appeal to young people, making it easier for them to start using and harder to quit.

Nearly 90% of youth who use e-cigarettes report using flavored products¹. Nicotine pouches are flavored and easy to conceal—two features that drove youth e-cigarette use to crisis levels. Oregon does not have a state law that restricts the sale of these products—even to kids. The rules around nicotine pouches don't match the safety measures and regulations Oregon has around cigarettes, e-cigarettes and vape products, cigars & chewing tobacco. In Oregon, nicotine pouches can be sold anywhere without a state license and can be purchased online; there is no age restriction required under Oregon law. This is dangerous for our youth, which means it'll be easier to access.

To make matters worse, nicotine pouches come in a variety of flavors including berry, mint and citrus, and are sold by all major tobacco companies. These new products are poised to be the next money maker, setting up young people for a lifetime of addiction while the tobacco industry profits. Total monthly nicotine pouch sales increased by 250.8% nationally between January 2023 and August 2025. Nicotine pouches must be properly regulated just like other smokeless tobacco products, cigarettes, e- cigarettes and vapes, and cigars. It's time for Oregon to protect kids and close the loophole that

¹ Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Student Health Survey.



leaves nicotine pouches unregulated.

Oregon lawmakers have an opportunity to take a stand against an industry that profits from addiction and poor health outcomes. SB 1571 is a necessary measure to create a healthier future for Oregon's youth and communities of color.

By voting yes on SB 1571, you can help protect Oregon kids from Big Tobacco and nicotine addiction.

Thank you
Yesenia