

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Sen. Floyd Prozanski, Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
Sen. Kim Thatcher, Vice Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee

From: Courtni Dresser, Vice President of Government Relations

Date: February 11, 2026

Re: Support of SB 1571

The Oregon Medical Association (OMA) represents and advocates for more than 7,000 physicians, physician associates, and medical and PA students across Oregon. Our mission is to support our members in their efforts to practice medicine effectively, improve the health of Oregonians, and provide the highest quality patient care.

As clinicians, we are increasingly concerned about the rapid growth of oral nicotine products and the risks they pose to children. A 2025 study published in *Pediatrics* found more than 134,000 nicotine ingestions among children under age six reported to U.S. poison centers between 2010 and 2023. While many exposures resulted in minor effects, serious outcomes — including hospital admissions and deaths — did occur.

Nicotine pouches are a particular and emerging concern. The study found that ingestion rates involving nicotine pouches increased by more than 760% between 2020 and 2023. Importantly, nicotine pouches were more likely than other nicotine product formulations to be associated with serious medical outcomes and hospital admission.

These products are flavored, discreet, and often packaged in ways that resemble candy or mints — characteristics that increase the risk of accidental ingestion by young children. At the same time, their growing popularity and sales trends indicate they are becoming widely available in homes across the country.

Oregon has taken important steps to regulate cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and other tobacco products. Nicotine pouches should not be treated differently simply because they are newer to the market.

SB 1571 closes this regulatory gap and ensures nicotine pouches are subject to the same reasonable safeguards as other nicotine products. This is about protecting children from preventable poisoning and addiction.