

Submitter: Gianella Contreras Rodriguez

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1571

February 12th, 2026

Senate Committee on Judiciary

Oregon State Senate

900 Court St. NE

Salem, Oregon 97301

RE: Pass SB 1571 and Protect Oregon's Kids

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

My name is Gianella Contreras Rodriguez and I am a high school Junior at McMinnville High School.

Please support common sense regulation of nicotine pouches in Oregon.

I have seen firsthand the impact of flavored tobacco on my peers. They are constantly using these products without knowing the harms of them; and Big Tobacco wants to make sure to keep it that way. Consequently, with the easy access and limited regulation of these products, my peers can buy these products easily and increase their body's risk of getting cancer substantially. And now, Big Tobacco is onto its next trick to target my peers: nicotine pouches. Nicotine pouches are flavored and easy to conceal—two features that drove youth e-cigarette use to crisis levels. Big Tobacco is profiting off of teens buying these products and increasing their risk of cancer -- they don't care about the health of my peers.

This is frightening especially as Oregon doesn't have a state law that restricts the sale of these products—even to youth who should be protected. The rules around nicotine pouches don't match the safety measures and regulations we have 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.

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 2025.¹ 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 leaves
nicotine pouches unregulated. It's time for Oregon to protect kids from cancer and aid
in the cause of giving them a healthier life.

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

Thank you,

Gianella Contreras Rodriguez