

# Protect Oregon's Children and Public Support HB 2546



Serving Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming



Oregon is one of only nine states that allow minors to purchase electronic cigarettes<sup>1</sup> and there are currently **NO restrictions** on where electronic cigarettes can be used.

- Since 2011, rates of electronic cigarette use among Oregon 11<sup>th</sup> grade students have doubled<sup>2</sup> and those who use e-cigarettes are almost twice as likely to use traditional **cigarettes**<sup>3</sup>
- The use of electronic cigarettes in workplaces and public places is a public health concern—studies have found a 20% degradation of indoor air quality during use of electronic cigarettes<sup>4</sup>

## Legislation Overview

HB2546 restrict minor access to electronic cigarettes and prohibits the use of electronic cigarettes in public places and places of employment.

Additionally, HB 2546 would require electronic cigarettes and their components to be sold in child-resistant safety packaging. It would also prohibit the use of cannabinoids and other substances in electronic cigarettes in public places and places of employment.

## Electronic cigarettes are marketed in ways that make them especially attractive to children and youth<sup>5</sup>

- Electronic cigarettes are marketed using celebrity endorsements and have themes of youth-rebellion and glamour
- There are 8,000 flavors to choose from in the “e-juice” market, including flavors such as Captain Crunch, Blackberry Cobbler, and Gummy Bear<sup>6</sup>

## Electronic cigarettes pose potential health impacts on users and bystanders

Electronic cigarettes are not included in the Indoor Clean Air Act (ICAA) and can be used in public places and places of employment.

- Allowing electronic cigarette use in places where smoking is prohibited could complicate enforcement of the ICAA and renormalize tobacco use
- Recent studies show when an electronic cigarette users exhales they emits low levels of nicotine and particulate matter into the air<sup>7</sup>
- Analyses of electronic cigarette samples found known carcinogens, and detectable levels of other toxic chemicals in first and second hand aerosol partials; including chemicals that are known to cause cancer and birth defects<sup>8 9</sup>

Clean air— free of smoke, aerosol partials, and vapor— remains the standard to protect the health of bystanders, prevent tobacco and nicotine use initiation among children and youth, and encourage complete smoking cessation.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup> National Conference of State Legislatures. 2014

<sup>2</sup> Tobacco Prevention and Education Program. 2014. Oregon Public Health Division

<sup>3</sup> National Youth Tobacco Survey. 2013. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

<sup>4</sup> Promoting Health and Preventing Disease and Injury through Workplace Tobacco Polices. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

<sup>5</sup> World Health Organization. 2014. Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems Report

<sup>6</sup> Zhu SH, Sun JY, Bonnevie E, Cummins SE, Gamst A, Yin L, Lee M. Four hundred and sixty brands of e-cigarettes and counting: implications for product regulation. Tobacco Control. 2014;23(suppl 3):iii3- iii9

<sup>7</sup> Legacy Foundation. 2014. Tobacco Factsheet

<sup>8</sup> Oregon Public Health Division. E-Cigarette Primer

<sup>9</sup> World Health Organization. 2014. Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems Report

<sup>10</sup> Office on Smoking and Health. (2014). Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**Jenn Baker, ONA, [baker@oregonrn.org](mailto:baker@oregonrn.org)  
Morgan Cowling, CLHO, [morgan@oregonchlo.org](mailto:morgan@oregonchlo.org)**