

Show Agenda and Notes for Don't Touch My Cigars: 05/17/2018

Hello and welcome to episode 4 of the Don't Touch My Cigars podcast. This is a weekly podcast covering the latest cigar regulation and legislation updates locally, in your State, and at a federal level. My intent it to keep you informed and educated with what you can do to protect your rights.

This podcast is available to Old Soul community members before anyone else, with bonus content (including live audio), and then shared with the world via all major podcast aggregators. If you listen, please be sure to leave a review on iTunes, or wherever you get your podcasts from.

The Old Soul is:

- a community of people who enjoy cigars and the cigar lifestyle
 - a podcast keeping you current with cigar legislation updates and other banter
 - an online cigar lounge
 - a quarterly cigar lifestyle magazine curated by the community!
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At the end of every episode is a full song for your enjoyment. Light a cigar, sit back, turn it up, and relax.

Tonight I am smoking a

View all past and current show notes by going to shownotes.theoldsoul.community (and feel free to add comments).

Weekly Updates

Federal Updates

Regulation	Agency	Updates	Comments
Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C)	FDA	Influx of comments based on effort by J.C. Newman Cigar Company who operates the oldest cigar factory in America (located in Tampa, FL). Visit SaveCigarCity.com to learn more and take action against the FDA regulation.	View the ANPRM here. 659 (+155)

<p>Act)</p>		<p>J.C. Newman reports that the FDA regulation will cost them close to \$30M per year to comply with...they are a \$10M per year company...via WLFA News 8. Glynn Loope, CRA President, appeared as a guest on the Cigar Authority podcast and gave a two year update on where things stand with the FDA and the premium cigar industry. IPCPR, CRA, and Davidoff submit requests to extend the public comment period (Cigar-Coop) Davidoff - In previous issues of similar complexity, FDA provided longer comment periods. FDA ultimately provided 120 days to respond to its ANPRM on the use of menthol in cigarettes (Docket No. FDA-2013-N-0521), and 165 days to respond to its Proposed Rule on N-nitrosornicotine (“NNN”) levels in finished smokeless tobacco products (Docket No. FDA-2016-N-2527). IPCPR/CRA - The ANPRM requests comments, data, and research on three broad topics: (1) the definition of premium cigars; (2) the use patterns of premium cigars; and (3) the public health considerations associated with premium cigars. Each topic includes three to fourteen questions, and many of the questions, in turn, contain a number of sub-questions. The question regarding an appropriate definition of premium cigars alone requests comments on eighteen discrete product characteristics. Between these questions, the agency has requested a great deal of scientific and industry data, much of which will require the work of experts to collect and interpret. If done in a manner that creates a well-informed</p>	<p>39 days remain (6/25)</p>
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and fulsome record for review, this process will last longer than 90 days.

To date, the FDA has not publicly responded to any of the requests for additional time to the public comment period.

D.C. Judge Ruling Supports FDA -
“A ruling just in from Washington, D.C. upholds much of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s stance against the American premium cigar industry, striking down most of the arguments made by the three main lobbying groups in their fight against FDA regulation. At the same time, the ruling judge expressed his displeasure with the FDA’s [warning label plan](#), saying that it “smacks of basic unfairness...The lone bit of relief was in pipe tobacco, where the judge ruled against treating retailers who blend pipe tobacco in their stores as manufacturers” ([Cigar Aficionado](#)).

From Judge Mehta - “The cigar industry has expended millions of dollars in designing and creating new, conforming packaging, a fact that the FDA does not contest,” Mehta wrote, in spite of the FDA being in a period where it is seeking comments from the public as pertains to premium cigars—comments that could result in a change to those requirements. “Why is the agency insisting that the premium cigar industry expend millions of dollars to conform to regulatory mandates that might be rescinded only months after their effective date? The FDA provides no satisfactory response to either question. Whatever the answers, one thing is certain: Requiring the premium cigar industry to incur

		<p>substantial compliance costs while the agency comprehensively reassesses the wisdom of regulation, before the warnings requirements go into effect, smacks of basic unfairness. In the court's view, the prudent course would be for FDA to stay the warnings requirement as to premium cigars."</p> <p>Now what? Via Halfwheel</p> <p>Appeal - "Mehta actually agreed that the process by which the FDA went about regulating cigars was not fair. He described the process as "smacks of basic unfairness" and went as far to say that he does not believe that FDA should implement warning labels (see below) for premium cigars, or at least not now. The issue was he didn't believe he had the legal authority to overturn FDA's regulations. That's likely to be part of an appeal, which would seem very likely given where we stand."</p> <p>Other lawsuits - "There's a lawsuit filed in Texas that is similar, albeit not identical, to the one filed in Washington D.C. At the moment, that lawsuit remains directly unaffected by the D.C. ruling... There's also a lawsuit in Florida that was filed by Global Premium Cigars, Inc., i.e. 1502 Cigars. Frank Herrera, the attorney for Global Premium</p>	
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		<p>Cigars, Inc. indicated that he was looking into restarting their lawsuit, which had been put on hold.”</p> <p>ANPRM - “</p> <p>Judge Mehta seemed particularly perturbed by the idea FDA would potentially reexamine the regulations, just as the most expensive parts of the regulation went into effect. But that’s where we are at.”</p> <p>Congress - <u>TAKE ACTION!</u></p> <p>For now though, As of Aug. 10, warning labels will be required on cigar boxes in the U.S. and User Fees are here to stay (“around 4.5 cents per cigar sold in the U.S. to help pay for the FDA regulation of cigars”).</p> <p>View full ruling here (70 pages).</p>	
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Legislation	Branch	URL	Cosponsors	Change
H.R.564 - Traditional Cigar Manufacturing and Small Business Jobs Preservation Act of 2017	House	https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/564/cosponsors	142	0
Summary	This bill amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to exempt traditional large and premium cigars from regulation by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and from user fees assessed on tobacco products by the FDA.			
H.R.1136 - FDA Deeming Authority Clarification Act of 2017	House	https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/1136/cosponsors	92	0

<p>Summary</p>	<p>This bill amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA) to: (1) revise premarket review and reporting requirements for products newly deemed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to be tobacco products; and (2) grant the FDA the authority to regulate vapor products, which include products that produce vapor with nicotine (e.g., e-cigarettes) and nicotine intended to be used with such a product (e.g., nicotine cartridges).</p>
<p>FY 2019 Agriculture Appropriations Bill</p>	<p>Via Cigar Authority: ...[Wednesday], the International Premium Cigar & Pipe Retailers Association (“IPCPR”), Cigar Association of America (“CAA”), and Cigar Rights of America (“CRA”) were pleased to announce the adoption of language in the FY 2019 budget as approved by the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations by a vote of 29 – 20 that works to protect premium cigars from overreaching and burdensome regulations, as proposed by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration.</p> <p>The language addresses significant concerns that the premium cigar industry has maintained since the rule was proposed in 2014. According to Scott Pearce, IPCPR Executive Director, this language is proof positive these concerns are not only heard, but validated. “I think we’ve seen broad recognition on and off Capitol Hill that FDA’s regulatory regime for premium cigars has been deeply flawed since it was introduced four years ago,” said Pearce. “IPCPR and CRA applaud Congressmen Cole, Bishop and all of our supporters on Capitol Hill for finding a sensible legislative solution that provides premium tobacconists and manufacturers certainty. Congress never intended for the premium industry to endure the regulatory burdens imposed by the FDA. Today’s vote reinforces that.”</p> <p>The language as adopted by the committee blends past efforts, by not only providing an exemption for defined premium and large cigars, but changing the “predicate date” for cigars and pipe tobacco from burdensome pre-market approval procedures to the time of the deeming rule issuance, from February 15, 2007 to April 25, 2014.</p> <p>Via Halfwheel: As for the next steps in Congress, it will likely be a few months. Last year, the House of Representatives passed its spending bill in September, but it wasn’t until March before a full spending bill was agreed upon by both chambers. In years prior, Congress was able to pass its large spending bill—known as an omnibus—in December.</p> <p>The cigar language needs support in the Senate, something all parties hope is improved upon now with a singular amendment.</p> <p>Via Cigar-Coop: There are many more steps to make this reality. While it is good news that this language has been included, in the past</p>

	<p>advancing this across the goal line has been a challenge. The Agriculture Appropriations draft must make it into the final overall Appropriations Bill and there is a chance the proposals for premium cigars may not be included. The bill must then be passed by the House. Also, a companion bill must clear the U.S. Senate – something that has proven to be a huge hurdle for the cigar industry. And both bills must make it to the floor for a vote. If passed, the President can choose to veto it. Earlier this year, the language failed to make it into the final Omnibus bill for Fiscal Year 2018.</p>			
S.294 - Traditional Cigar Manufacturing and Small Business Jobs Preservation Act of 2017	Senate	https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/294/cosponsors	20	+1 Senator Joni Ernst (R - Iowa)
Summary	<p>This bill amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to exempt traditional large and premium cigars from regulation by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and from user fees assessed on tobacco products by the FDA.</p>			

Contact your senator and ask them to say YES to S. 294.

View IPCPR Legislative website for more:
<http://www.ipcprlegislative.org/ipcpr-federal-resources/>

[View additional Frequently Asked Questions and answers by IPCPR staff here.](#)

State Updates

[Massachusetts House of Representatives Approves Tobacco 21 Bill - halfwheel](#)

A bill that would make Massachusetts the sixth state where 21-years-old is the minimum age to purchase tobacco products and e-cigarettes has gotten the approval of the state House of Representatives.

The bill, H.4479, was approved by a 147-4 vote on Wednesday and now heads to the state Senate for further deliberation.

The bill also includes a ban on vaping on school grounds and in other public places, as well as a ban on the sale of tobacco products at pharmacies or health care facilities.

Should it pass the Senate and get the signature of Gov. Charlie Brown, who has already indicated he is generally supportive of the increase, it would go into effect on Dec. 31, 2018.

[New Jersey Beach Smoking Ban Bill Introduced Again - halfwheel](#)

Yet another bill—at least the second of this year—has been introduced that will try to ban smoking at all public beaches in New Jersey.

Last week, S.2534 was introduced and passed by the Senate Environment and Energy Committee. The bill will extend a current beach smoking ban bill to include all public beaches. In 2016, a beach smoking ban was passed, but it only covered state-owned public beaches. Then-governor Chris Christie vetoed language that would have banned smoking at public city and county beaches.

Since then, multiple bills have tried—and failed—to extend the beach smoking ban.

[Alaska Statewide Business Smoking Ban Heads to Governor's Desk - halfwheel](#)

A statewide smoking ban that would affect most businesses in Alaska now heads to the desk of Gov. Bill Walker.

On Saturday, the Alaska House of Representatives approved S.B. 63, which bans smoking at most businesses in the state. It includes bars, restaurants and most other private businesses. Tobacconists, e-cigarette retailers and private clubs are exempt from the rule so long as they have proper ventilation and do not serve alcohol. Private clubs will be grandfathered in so long as their location has not moved since Jan. 1, 2017.

If passed, the new law will go into effect Oct. 1.

[View additional detailed state updates via the IPCPR here.](#)

Local Updates

[Minneapolis, Minn. Committee Approves Tobacco 21 Ordinance - halfwheel](#)

the Minneapolis City Council's Committee of Public Health, Environment, Civil Rights and Engagement approved an ordinance seeking to raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco products to 21-years-old, which will send it to the full council for consideration as early as next Thursday.

As currently written, the ordinance seeks to raise the age on Oct. 1, 2018.

[Shoreview, Minn. Raises Tobacco Purchase Age to 21 - halfwheel](#)

the Shoreview City Council unanimously approved a proposal to make raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco products from 18 to 21-years-old by a 5-0 vote, according to a report by Fox9.com. It does not criminalize possession of tobacco products by a person between 18 and

21-years-old, however.

The increase goes into effect on July 1.

[Falcon Heights, Minn. Passes Tobacco Purchase Age Increase - halfwheel](#)

A second city in the Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn. area has joined the Tobacco 21 movement this week, as on Wednesday night the Falcon Heights City Council approved a proposal that will raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco and tobacco alternative products from 18 to 21-years-old.

Additionally, flavored tobacco will be restricted to retailers that only allows persons 21-years-old and older to enter and which derive at least 90 percent of their revenues from the sale of tobacco, tobacco products, tobacco-related devices, or electronic delivery devices.

The proposal was passed by a 3-2 vote according to a press release from Minnesotans For a Smoke-Free Generation. It will go into effect in 60 days after publication in the city's designated newspaper.

[News | City of Richfield, MN](#)

On May 22, the Richfield City Council will consider updating its Tobacco Ordinance to include increasing the purchasing age to 21.

[Port Huron, Mich. Passes Parks and Beaches Smoking Ban - halfwheel](#)

A proposed expansion to Port Huron's existing smoking ban that will bring an end to the use of tobacco products and tobacco alternatives in the city's parks and beaches got the unanimous approval of the city council on Monday night.

While the city has had an informal ban in place for three years, it was created as a discouragement for lighting up in parks and beaches as opposed to an outright ban. Now, the ban has some teeth as it has been added to the city code, and violators can be subject to municipal civil infractions.

[New Castle, N.Y. Raises Tobacco Purchasing Age to 21 - halfwheel](#)

The town board of New Castle, N.Y. passed an ordinance at its May 8th meeting that will raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco and tobacco alternative products from 18 to 21-years-old.

The increase will go into effect as soon as the ordinance has been filed with the Secretary of State. Retailers who sell tobacco to persons under 21 can face fines starting at \$350 for a first offense that escalates to \$1,000 and up to six months of jail time for a third offense.

[Ulster County, N.Y. Legislature Approves Tobacco 21 Bill - halfwheel](#)

In Ulster County, N.Y., when the new year is rung in, it will also signal an increase to the age to purchase tobacco products as the county's legislature unanimously approved a resolution on Tuesday that will make 21-years-old the new minimum to purchase tobacco products.

According to a report by DailyFreeman.com, the proposal passed "without discussion," and is expected to be signed into law by County Executive Michael Hein, who has called for an

increase during the past two legislative sessions.

[Yates County, N.Y. Bans Tobacco on County Grounds - halfwheel](#)

A complete ban on the use of tobacco is coming to property owned and leased by Yates County, N.Y., as on Monday the county legislature approved a proposal as part of its regularly scheduled meeting.

The new ban only has two exceptions: roadways and right of ways located within the county road system, and in moving vehicles which are in the process of exiting or entering property owned or leased by the county.

Violators will be subject to a \$1,000 fine once the new law goes into effect on Jan. 1, 2019.

[Stamford, N.Y. Implements Smoking Ban on Town Property - halfwheel](#)

The town of Stamford, N.Y. has passed a ban on the use of all tobacco products on town-owned property, including parks in the municipality.

While the town has not posted any news of the new law, The-Reporter.net indicates that the use of all tobacco products and tobacco alternatives such as e-cigarettes and vapes are being prohibited in parks, trails and recreational areas, as well as at public events.

[Nassau County, N.Y. Nears Tobacco Purchase Age Increase - halfwheel](#)

A bill in Nassau County, N.Y. that would raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco products to 21-years-old took a step forward on Monday as it received unanimous approval by the legislature's Rules Committee.

The bill now heads to the full county legislature, where it appears it will be approved. It also has the support of Nassau County Executive Laura Curran, who has said she will sign it into law should it arrive on her desk.

[Public hearing set for tobacco law](#) (New York)

The Essex County Board of Supervisors moved ahead with a public hearing later this month on a proposed law to change the age to purchase tobacco products from 18 to 21 in Essex County.

The full board passed the measure by a 1,881-1,041 weighted vote, with 10 supervisors in favor of the resolution and eight against.

A public hearing will be held May 29 following the Ways and Means Committee meeting.

[Lancaster, Mass. Joins Tobacco 21 - halfwheel](#)

While the Massachusetts legislature continues to debate an increase to the minimum age to purchase tobacco products, the Lancaster Board of Health passed its own increase this week, joining more than 170 other municipalities where an individual must be at least 21-years-old to purchase tobacco.

Additionally, the board banned the sale of all flavored tobacco products within town limits. Both votes were unanimous, according to a report by LowellSun.com.

[Reno, Nev. Parks Could Soon Go Smoke-Free - halfwheel](#)

A proposal to ban smoking in the parks of Reno, Nev. got the support of the city's Recreation and Parks Commission on Tuesday, as seven of the nine members voted in favor of forwarding it to the city council, with two of the members absent from the meeting.

While the city has not posted the full text of the ban that the commission voted on, the meeting's agenda indicates that smoking in all parks would be banned unless a designated smoking area was provided and had proper signage.

[Fort Worth Bans Smoking at Parks - halfwheel](#)

Earlier this year, Fort Worth banned smoking at bars and restaurants, now the city has banned smoking at parks.

On Tuesday, the Fort Worth City Council banned smoking at the city's parks, which also includes athletic fields, swimming pools, pathways and trails. The city's public golf courses and the unenclosed area of the Will Rogers Memorial Center, a popular exhibition area best known for the Fort Worth stock show and rodeo, are exempt.

The new rule will go into effect within 90 days, though the city does not expect enforcement to be particularly strict. The city's code compliance director testified that the city might have to enforce the rule via the police department 1 percent of the time.

Fines would be less than \$500 in the event someone refused to comply with the law.

[Philadelphia Flavored Tobacco Ban Proposed - halfwheel](#)

Philadelphia will consider banning flavored tobacco.

Last week, Councilman Curtis Jones Jr., D-4, introduced legislation that would ban flavored tobacco in the city. A hearing is scheduled for June.

[Augusta Commission wants workshop on smoking ban](#) (Georgia)

A proposal to ban smoking at private businesses in Augusta is something city leaders are still not comfortable with.

Commissioners are looking at new regulations that would prohibit smoking at all bars and private clubs.

But commissioners voted to hold a workshop on the proposed smoking ban after business owners said a smoking ban would have a big impact by chasing away a big percentage of their customers.

"They're going to see at least a 30 to 40 percent impact immediately. This has been proven. I've offered to give the commission studies that our group has done in other jurisdictions. It's going to hurt the county. It's going to hurt the county with the police force that's already stressed out for money. Now they're going to take more from them. We need to look at the economics," said Tracy Ferris a business owner who spoke before the commission.

Breatheasy Augusta, the group promoting the smoking ban, says it welcomes a workshop but added national studies show that business does not drop off at bars and clubs after smoking bans go into affect.

[Florence City Council tables proposed smoking ban](#) (Colorado)

The Florence City Council on Monday tabled a proposed smoking ban, specifically in public parks, until the May 21 meeting to get public feedback.

The ordinance amendment is being proposed by the Boys and Girls Club of Fremont County, which spearheaded a similar project in Cañon City in late 2016.

In February 2017, the Cañon City Council approved an ordinance prohibiting smoking within 100 feet of playgrounds and picnic areas within city-owned parks.

The club's Facebook page states "Our middle school members chose this fight because it's important to them. Because they are personally affected by smoking."

[Holcomb considering T-21 ordinance](#) (Kansas)

The Holcomb City Council did not take action on a T-21 ordinance Wednesday, but Mayor Brian Rupp said eventual passage is a strong possibility.

The policy that would raise the minimum age to buy, sell and possess tobacco products in Holcomb to 21 tentatively had been slated for consideration and potential passage at Wednesday's council meeting, but Rupp said concerns about an agenda crowded by insurance policy considerations and an ongoing review process of the T-21 policy by the city attorney delayed the decision.

[Council takes up smoking ban petition](#)

The Mesquite City Council reviewed an initiative petition committee verification geared towards banning smoking in casinos, bars, restaurants, and even private living areas at its Tuesday, May 8 meeting.

Tracy Beck, Mesquite City Clerk, presented the council with a notice from a Mesquite Clean Indoor Air Initiative Petition committee, that kicks off a months-long process to place a citizen initiative on the November general election ballot to make Mesquite the first locale in the state of Nevada that would ban all smoking anywhere in a casino and many other places....

Councilman Dave Ballweg began the council discussion by saying "this is not an advisory issue. If passed by the voters, it will be mandatory."

Ballweg said the affect on the city's budget would be wide-ranging including reductions in collections of business licensing fees, less liquor taxes, less gaming taxes and less room taxes. "I penciled it out and I may be wrong but potentially the city could lose \$2.5 million. It's an arbitrary number. The businesses project a drop of 30 to 50 percent in their revenues, at least

initially.”

He also said it is important for people to understand that the proposed law bans smoking in more places than just casinos. “If you don’t live in a single-family residence, you can’t smoke in your condo, townhome or even on your balcony or in your yard,” Ballweg said. According to the proposed law, it doesn’t matter if you own the property or not.

Councilman Brian Wursten said when he installed gaming machines at the Falcon Ridge golf course, which was a non-smoking facility, the gaming revenues were so small that the distribution company pulled them out. “I have first-hand experience with this issue. We could also lose residents who move out of the city because of this new law.”

Wursten also said “we’re trying to do this in one tiny part of the state. If this was state-wide, I’d be all for it. Just to make Mesquite the Guinea pig, I have a really, really hard time with that. I also know that we’re going to see some legal ramifications and lawsuits from the casinos on this issue. By doing this on a local level, I think we are doing a disservice to our community.”

[New Franklin council hears presentation on T-21](#) (Ohio)

The city of New Franklin will be considering adopting T-21 in the city, which would prohibit tobacco sales to anyone under 21.

During the May 2 council meeting, council heard a presentation from Summit County Health Commissioner Donna Skoda who said the goal is to get the youth not to smoke and eliminate that peer group. She said vaping is also included in T-21 because it is not FDA approved.

“We don’t know what is in those vaping liquids,” Skoda said.

Recently, the city of Akron approved the change joining other cities such as Columbus and Cleveland. Skoda said there have been some rumors depending on who becomes the next governor, it could be on the ballot as a statewide issue.

Skoda said she would love for New Franklin to consider adopting T-21. She said the change, if approved in New Franklin, would add no burden to the police. She also said while T-21 states it is illegal for a vendor to sell tobacco to anyone under 21, it doesn’t take away the right of someone under 21 using tobacco.

[City Council to Look into Public Parks Smoking Ban | The Capistrano Dispatch](#) (California)

San Juan Capistrano City Council directed its city staff to look at banning smoking in public parks on May 1.

The direction came after Councilmember Kerry Ferguson brought a proposed direction of city staff to look into banning smoking in public spaces. Ferguson’s proposal asked city staff to research the effects of second-hand smoke outside, no-smoking ordinances in other cities, ways to survey San Juan Capistrano residents on whether they would support a smoking ban in public places, and to have the issue brought back to City Council by July 17, 2018.

Councilmember Derek Reeve said he did not support doing a survey on whether residents

support banning smoking in public spaces, and that city resources should be allocated to more “pressing” issues.

(South Pasadena resident Gisella Benitez has been pushing for an expanded no smoking ban since she lost her husband, Ricardo, to lung cancer last year. Ricardo was not a smoker and second-hand smoke may have been a contributing factor to his lung cancer.)

[Council Unanimously OK’s First Look at Expanding Citywide Smoking Ban - South Pasadena Review](#) (California)

The South Pasadena City Council unanimously approved the first reading of an amendment that will expand the citywide smoking ban, targeting the harmful effects of second-hand smoke.

South Pasadena Police Acting Capt. Robert Bartl presented the first reading of the expanded smoking ban to the council Wednesday.

“This is about the harmful effects of second-hand smoke,” Bartl told the council at its Wednesday night meeting on May 2.

Smoking is currently prohibited in public parks and public places, including restaurants, theaters, museums and restrooms, among other sites, according to South Pasadena City Manager Stephanie DeWolfe.

[After two years of debate, Sitka's tobacco age goes to 21 - KCAW](#) (Alaska)

The age to buy tobacco in Sitka will be going up, if an ordinance passed by the Sitka Assembly this week survives a second reading.

There was broad support for the local initiative — called Tobacco 21 — after the assembly’s concerns were addressed over how to deal with the 19-to-20 year olds who are already hooked on smoking.

[View additional detailed local updates via the IPCPR here.](#)

University Updates

[Board passes smoking ban after carving out exception for medical marijuana – The Guardsman](#) (City College of San Francisco.)

The board of trustees passed the smoke-free campus ban at their April 26 meeting after making amendments to accommodate medical marijuana users.

The policy bans smoking at all campuses and removes the designated smoking areas which will be implemented in August.

Chancellor Mark Rocha raised the issue of medical marijuana users who would be affected by

the ban. “The issue is individuals on campus who may possess a medical marijuana card. How would that be covered in this, and should we reference that in some way?” he said at the meeting.

Trustee Tom Temprano said he wouldn’t be comfortable voting for the policy unless it included language ensuring medical marijuana users retained access to their prescribed medication.

“I think it’s important ... to have a process in which medical cannabis patients can, in consultation with the administration or student health, come up with a plan for access to their medicine, should it be most effective for them to be smoked,” Temprano said.

The board amended the language to make sure there is a section acknowledging medical marijuana users and places they can use their medicine. The amended ban passed unanimously.

[College board amends campus tobacco policy](#) (North Carolina)

Sampson Community College has been a tobacco-free campus for the last three years, but beginning fall semester, the college’s tobacco policy will slightly change.

The new policy will allow the use of any tobacco product in designated areas, but will continue to be prohibited in campus buildings, on campus grounds, in college vehicles or at any college-sponsored event.

“While we support the overall goal of the tobacco-free policy, administering that policy continues to be a problem for us,” SCC president Dr. Bill Starling explained.

International Updates

[Cigar News: Canadian Parliament Passes Bill Paving Way for Plain Packaging on Tobacco](#)

The Canadian Parliament has passed legislation that is a major overhaul to the country’s Tobacco Act. Yesterday the Parliament passed Bill S-5, which amends Canada’s current Tobacco Act and gives Health Canada the authority to implement plain packaging on tobacco products – including premium cigars.

The Parliament vote comes less than 24 hours from when a United States Federal Court upheld a challenge by the U.S. cigar industry contesting the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)’s Warning Label requirements. For the Canadian tobacco market, things are a lot worse.

From the document for consideration: POTENTIAL MEASURES FOR REGULATING THE APPEARANCE, SHAPE AND SIZE OF TOBACCO PACKAGES AND OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

“The design and appearance of packages, and of tobacco products, are among the few remaining promotional channels available to the tobacco industry. They are used extensively to develop brand identity, create positive associations and expectations for consumers, and reduce

the perception of risk and harm.”

Nicaragua

[Nicaragua’s Regime Wants to Go the Direction of Venezuela. Here’s How That Can Be Avoided.](#)

Initially, demonstrators took to the streets to protest an unpopular social security reform. But the government’s brutal repression of the protesters—many of them university students—has spawned a backlash against Ortega’s socialist Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN).

Nicaraguan police and pro-government thugs have killed dozens of protesters. Hundreds have also been injured or disappeared. The government has censored independent media channels by taking them off the air. Reporters and human rights organizations report that live ammunition is being used on protesters, and the military is being deployed in certain parts of the country.

[Nicaraguan students enraged at repression turn on government](#)

The non-governmental Permanent Commission on Human Rights on Monday put the death toll in the protests at 65.

Random Asides

[Mansfield in the Age of Cigars: Part 2](#) (Ohio) by Timothy Brian McKee ([Read Part 1 here](#))

[The Oldest Man in America Is a Texan, Who Loves His Cigars](#) (turned 112)

Friday, May 11, 2018 marks the birthday of America's oldest living man and the oldest World War II veteran, 112-year-old Richard Overton. He lives in the house he bought in the 1940s and loves his cigars.

"But I don't inhale them," Overton added. "Don't ever inhale the cigar, it'll tear your heart all to pieces."

[Winston Churchill's half-smoked Cuban cigar set for auction](#)

Winston Churchill's half-smoked Cuban cigar left in an ashtray onboard HMS Duke of York during WWII is set to fetch £1,200 at auction (~\$1,600)

- Churchill boarded vessel for hastily-arranged voyage to US in December 1941
 - Cigar was picked up by Reverend Robert Evans, chaplain on HMS Duke of York
 - During 10-day voyage, PM would have smoked dozens of cigars - but part-smoked one now for sale is only one known to have survived
-

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Take action via the [IPCPR](#)

Take action via [CRA](#)

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The Old Soul is:

- a community of people who enjoy cigars and the cigar lifestyle

- a podcast keeping you current with cigar legislation updates and other banter

- an online cigar lounge

- a quarterly cigar lifestyle magazine curated by the community!

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