



Resolution in Support of Restricting the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products and Protecting Kids from a Lifetime of Nicotine Addiction

WHEREAS Big Tobacco's use of candy flavors like bubblegum, blue raspberry, root beer, and minty menthol hooks generations of consumers – especially kids, students and communities of color – on the massive hits of nicotine their tobacco products can deliver; and

WHEREAS the millions Big Tobacco spends on lobbying so retailers can continue selling their predatory, candy-flavored products has triggered what the Surgeon General and the FDA have called an "epidemic" of e-cigarette use across the nation; and

WHEREAS big Tobacco spends \$115 million for marketing in Oregon each year; and

WHEREAS 10.8% of Oregon 11th grade students use e-cigarettes, and 5,000 Oregon kids under 18 try cigarettes for the first time each year; and

WHEREAS tobacco companies are creating a cycle of addiction that puts taxpayers – whether they smoke or not – on the hook for \$373.6 million in annual Medicaid costs caused by smoking in Oregon; and

WHEREAS each year, tobacco use kills over 8,000 Oregonians and costs almost \$5.7 billion in medical expenses and lost productivity; and

WHEREAS in 2022, 25% of tobacco retailers inspected in Oregon sold tobacco to underage buyers; and

WHEREAS nine of 10 adults who smoke report that they started smoking by 18; and

WHEREAS two thirds of Oregon youth tobacco users use flavored tobacco compared to about 26% of older adult tobacco users, thus beginning a life of addiction because of the attraction of flavors;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Parkrose School Board strongly encourages the Oregon Legislature to pass legislation ending the sale of flavored tobacco products. We must protect kids from Big Tobacco's candy-flavored and minty-menthol tobacco used to lure young people into a lifetime of addiction.

Adopted this 23rd day of October, 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brenda L. Rivas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Signed, Chair Brenda Rivas, Parkrose School Board