



# MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: 6/9/2014)

## Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date: 3/5/15  
Agenda Item #: R.2  
Est. Start Time: 9:40 am  
Date Submitted: 2/18/15

**Agenda Title:** **Second Reading of an Ordinance Amending Multnomah County Code Chapter 21, Health**

*Note: Title should not be more than 2 lines but sufficient to describe the action requested. Title on APR must match title on Ordinance, Resolution, Order or Proclamation.*

## Requested

**Meeting Date:** March 5, 2015 **Time Needed:** 45 minutes

**Department:** Non-Departmental **Division:** Chair's Office

**Contact(s):** Liz Smith Currie

**Phone:** 503-988-4435 **Ext.** 84435 **I/O Address:** 503/6

**Presenter** Dr. Jennifer Vines, Multnomah County Health Department

**Name(s) &** Dr. Jae Douglas

**Title(s):** Bernadette Nunley, Assistant County Attorney

## General Information

### 1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

Approve second reading of the Ordinance Amending Multnomah County Code Chapter 12, Health.

### 2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer this action affects and how it impacts the results.

The Board of County Commissioners will consider an ordinance which will:

- Amend the County Smoke-Free Workplace law to prohibit the use of an "inhalant delivery system" (e-cigarette or "vaping" system) any place in the County where smoking is prohibited by law.
- Prohibit the sale of e-cigarettes to people under age 18.
- Prohibit the purchase of e-cigarettes by people under age 18.
- Prohibit the possession of e-cigarettes by people under age 18.

The Multnomah County Health Department testified on Nov. 13 and Nov. 25, 2014 before the Board of Health about youth access to and the health impact of the emerging e-cigarette market and best practices for addressing youth access to tobacco and nicotine products. The Health Department also presented this information to east County elected officials on Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> and at city council meetings in Fairview and Troutdale in January

2015, and the City of Portland on Feb. 11, 2015. On Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 members of the Oregon Health Equity Alliance briefed the Board of Health on the disproportionate impact of tobacco and emerging products on communities of color and asked that elected officials take action to address these issues.

Among the issues of concern to the Board of Health are:

- Current use of e-cigarettes (i.e., in the last month) among Oregon eleventh-graders has almost tripled recently: from 1.8% in 2011 to 5.2% in 2013, even as cigarette smoking appears to decline.
- Nationally, 6.8% of all youth between 6th and 12th grade report trying inhalant delivery systems.
- In Multnomah County, 10.1% of high school students have tried inhalant delivery systems.
- Nationally, 9.3% of youth who have used inhalant delivery systems have never smoked conventional cigarettes.
- Between 2010 and 2011, rates of both awareness and use of unregulated inhalant delivery systems by adults also increased significantly.
- The ingredients of cartridges, refill solutions, and aerosol sometimes include harmful or potentially harmful chemicals.
- Nicotine, a primary ingredient in most e-cigarettes, is highly addictive and is known to interfere with adolescent brain development.
- Some examples of e-cigarette flavors that could particularly appeal to youth are Bubble Gum, Snicker Doodle, Gummi Bear, Skittles, Mountain Dew, and the children's cereal Captain Crunch.
- Some cartridges used by inhalant delivery systems can be re-filled with liquid nicotine solution, creating the potential for exposure to dangerous concentrations of nicotine. Poisonings from inhalant delivery systems have increased dramatically in the last three and half years from one a month in September 2010 to 215 a month in February 2014. Analysis of reports of poisonings from inhalant delivery systems finds that calls reporting exposure to inhalant delivery systems are much more likely to involve adverse health effects when compared to calls reporting exposure to conventional cigarettes.
- Multnomah County retailers continue to sell tobacco to underage consumers evidenced by 2014 Synar results finding 31% of tobacco retailers unlawfully selling to minors.

**3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).**

N/A

**4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.**

N/A

**5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.**

On January 27<sup>th</sup> and February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015, the Board of Health received community input on possible actions. The Board of Health also heard three briefings from the Health Department and the Oregon Health Equity Alliance in Nov. and Dec. of 2014. The Health Department has presented information on the impact of e-cigarette on youths to east County elected officials and staff on November 14<sup>th</sup> in Gresham and presented at the city

councils of the cities of Fairview, Troutdale, and Portland on January 21<sup>st</sup>, January 27<sup>th</sup>, and Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, respectively. On February 12<sup>th</sup>, in addition to the first reading of this ordinance, the Board of Health voted on a policy order related to the regulation of inhalant delivery systems.

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**Required Signature**

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**Elected  
Official or  
Department**

**Director:**      Chair Deborah Kafoury      **Date:**      2/18/15

*Note: Please submit electronically. Insert names of your approvers followed by /s/ - we no longer use actual signatures. Please insert date approved.*