

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

## **An Act To Prohibit the Sale and Distribution of Flavored Tobacco Products**

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

**Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §1560-D**, as amended by PL 2011, c. 380, Pt. II, §2, is further amended to read:

### **§ 1560-D. Flavored tobacco products**

**1. Definitions.** As used in this subchapter, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following meanings.

A. ~~"Characterizing flavor" means a distinguishable taste or aroma of candy, chocolate, vanilla, fruit, berry, nut, herb, spice, honey or an alcoholic drink that is imparted to tobacco or tobacco smoke either prior to or during consumption. "Characterizing flavor" does not include a taste or aroma from tobacco. A cigar is deemed to have a characterizing flavor if the cigar is advertised or marketed as having or producing the taste or aroma of candy, chocolate, vanilla, fruit, berry, nut, herb, spice, honey or an alcoholic drink, other than the taste or aroma of tobacco, imparted either prior to or during consumption of a tobacco product or component part thereof, including, but not limited to, tastes or aromas relating to any fruit, chocolate, menthol, mint, wintergreen, vanilla, honey, candy, cocoa, dessert, alcoholic beverage, herb or spice; however, a tobacco product may not be considered to have a characterizing flavor solely because of the use of additives or flavorings or the provision of ingredient information.~~

B. ~~"Component part" includes but is not limited to the tobacco, filter and paper in a cigar~~means any element of a tobacco product, including, but not limited to, the tobacco, filter and paper, but not including any constituent.

C. ~~"Constituent" means any ingredient, substance, chemical or compound, other than tobacco, water or reconstituted tobacco sheet, that is added by the manufacturer to the tobacco, paper or filter of a cigar~~a tobacco product during the processing, manufacture or packing~~packaging of the cigar~~tobacco product. "Constituent" includes a smoke constituent.

C-1. ~~"Electronic smoking device" means a device used to deliver nicotine or any other substance intended for human consumption that may be used by a person to simulate smoking through inhalation of vapor or aerosol from the device, including, without limitation, a device manufactured, distributed, marketed or sold as an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic pipe, electronic hookah or so-called vape pen. "Electronic smoking device" includes any component, part or accessory of such a device, whether or not sold separately, and includes any substance intended to be aerosolized or vaporized during the use of the device. "Electronic smoking device" does not include drugs, devices or combination products authorized for sale by the United States Food and Drug Administration, as those terms are defined in the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.~~

~~D. "Flavored cigartobacco product" means a cigar or any component part of the cigar that contains a constituent that imparts a characterizing flavortobacco product or a component part of a tobacco product that contains a constituent that imparts a characterizing flavor.~~

~~E-1. "Premium cigar" means a cigar that weighs more than 3 pounds per 1,000 cigars and is wrapped in whole tobacco leaf.~~

F. "Smoke constituent" means any chemical or chemical compound in mainstream or sidestream tobacco smoke that either transfers from any component part of the cigartobacco product to the smoke or that is formed by the combustion or heating of tobacco, additives or other component of the tobacco product.

**2. Prohibition on sale or distribution of flavored tobacco products.** ~~Except as provided in subsection 5-A, a~~ person may not sell or distribute or offer to sell or distribute in this State any flavored cigar ~~unless the cigar is a premium cigartobacco product.~~

A public statement or claim made or disseminated by the manufacturer of a tobacco product, or by a person authorized or permitted by the manufacturer to make or disseminate public statements concerning a tobacco product, that a tobacco product has or produces a characterizing flavor constitutes presumptive evidence that the tobacco product is a flavored tobacco product.

**3. Violation.** A person who violates this section commits a civil violation for which fines may be imposed under subsection 4.

**4. Fines.** The fines that apply to violations of this section are as set out in this subsection.

A. A person who violates subsection 2 commits a civil violation for which a fine of \$1,000 may be adjudged.

B. A person who violates subsection 2 after having previously been convicted of a violation of that subsection commits a civil violation for which a fine of \$5,000 may be adjudged.

~~**5-A. Exemptions.** Any flavored cigar that the Attorney General determined had no characterizing flavor or was otherwise exempt under former subsection 5 is exempt from the prohibition on flavored nonpremium cigars in subsection 2 so long as no material change is made to the cigar's flavoring, packaging or labeling subsequent to the Attorney General's determination.~~

~~**8. Website information.** To the extent that resources permit, the Attorney General shall maintain on a publicly accessible website a list of flavored cigars that are exempt from the prohibition under subsection 5-A and authorized for distribution and sale in the State.~~

**10. Transfers of funds.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for fiscal years beginning on or after July 1, 2009 the State Controller shall transfer \$92,660 no later than June 30, 2010 and \$145,147 no later than June 30, 2011 from the Fund for a Healthy Maine to General Fund undedicated revenue.

**Sec. 2. Maine Revised Statutes headnote amended; revision clause.** In the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 22, chapter 262-A, subchapter 5, in the subchapter headnote, the words "flavored cigars" are amended to read "flavored tobacco products" and the Revisor of Statutes shall implement this revision when updating, publishing or republishing the statutes.

### **SUMMARY**

This bill prohibits the sale and distribution of flavored tobacco products, including flavored cigars.