

Testimony in Opposition to LDs 1174 and 1215
An Act to Prohibit the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products
and
An Act to End the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products

Senator Baldacci, Representative Meyer, and distinguished members of the Committee on Health and Human Services, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony regarding LDs 1174 and 1215.

Flavored tobacco products through the use of an electronic cigarette helped me quit smoking cigarettes. Prior to the advent of electronic cigarettes, or vaporizers, I was smoking nearly a pack a day of traditional combustible cigarettes. Flavored tobacco products and vapes are smoking cessation products and should be treated as such. While I understand the sponsors' fears of these products getting into the hands of children, there will be harm done to the countless adults who use flavored tobacco products as they are intended.

If these bans were to pass, more adults will revert to smoking traditional combustible tobacco. As a resident of Southern Maine, I may just drive across the border to New Hampshire and purchase my flavored tobacco products there. I'm sure the State of New Hampshire will gladly accept the increase in revenue from many Mainer's buying their tobacco products there.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jared H. Hirshfield
Kennebunk