

LD 1550: An Act To End the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products
Testimony of Sue Sell, Machias, Washington County, Maine
May 7, 2021

Senator Claxton, Representative Meyer, and honorable members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services: my name is Sue Sell from Machias, Maine and I am here today to testify in favor of LD 1550, An Act To End the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products.

I quit tobacco 28 years ago. I started when I was 17 years old because all my friends were smoking. I started with regular cigarettes and switched to menthol. Menthol was a game changer for me. The menthol made me feel so much better. I could smoke more and it was so soothing or so I thought. It took smoking to a whole new level. Later in life, the chronic coughing started. I would cough all night long and I couldn't sleep. I knew it was because of the tobacco and I had to stop. I now have grandkids and I don't want that life for them. Let's get rid of flavored tobacco which includes menthol.

It's time to end the sale of flavored tobacco. Please vote 'yes' on LD 1550. Thank you for allowing me to share my story, happy to answer any questions you may have.