

Nick Murray
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LD 1693

Good Morning,

I have already submitted testimony on LD 1693, but this analysis was just published and I wanted to make sure the committee was aware of it prior to the public hearing.

An analysis by the Tax Foundation points out the crucial limitations of a study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) last month: it does not take into account New England regional cross-border purchases (or online purchases).

The JAMA paper found cigarette sales significantly decreased in Massachusetts following their flavored tobacco ban in June 2020, compared to other states which did not institute a ban. While this is an important finding, it is equally as important to note that the analysis did not consider cross-border trade. In this regard, data compiled by the Tax Foundation shows sales and tax revenue gains focused in New Hampshire and Rhode Island jumped commensurate with the decline in sales in Massachusetts.

<https://taxfoundation.org/massachusetts-flavored-tobacco-ban-sales-jama-study/>

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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