



LEGISLATIVE ALERT

THE TIME IS NOW: TOBACCO 21 Support HB4297 & SB2332

As oral health care specialists, it is important to support legislation that positively impacts oral and overall health of the public.

Recent studies have shown that tobacco and smokeless tobacco used in the form of cigarette, cigar, pipe smoking, chewing tobacco, etc. increase risk factors in the development and progression of periodontal disease. In turn, research links periodontal disease to increased risk of heart disease, stroke, poorly controlled diabetes, respiratory disease, and premature babies.

Smoking kills more than 18,000 Illinois adults each year. In a statewide phone survey conducted in January 2018, 2/3 of Illinoisans support raising the age of tobacco sales from 18 to 21.

Tobacco 21 predicts a 25% drop in teen tobacco use. It applies to 18-20 year olds but impacts all youths.

Tobacco 21 helps prevent the next generation of adult smokers, cutting adult smoking rates by 12%.

While the tobacco industry claims they are no longer targeting children, manipulative tactics are being utilized to attract them. Enticing flavors, colorful packaging, and names similar to popular candy are used. Convenience stores place many of these products in kid-friendly locations and at kid-friendly prices. The tobacco industry also promotes their products on social media.

The adolescent brain is particularly sensitive to the effects of nicotine. Studies indicate that smoking during adolescence increases the risk of developing psychiatric disorders and cognitive impairment in later life.

Please contact your State Representative today regarding HB4297 and ask them to vote **YES**.
To find your State Representative please visit <https://www.illinoispolicy.org/maps/illinois-house/>

Please contact your Senator today regarding SB2332 and ask them to vote **YES**.
To find your Senator please visit <https://www.illinoispolicy.org/maps/illinois-senate/>

For any questions contact
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Tobacco 21 Supporters

Support HB 4297 (Lilly)/SB 2332 (Morrison)



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