



Protect Our Youth from Harmful Tobacco Products

An Act to Protect Youth from the Health Risks of Tobacco & Nicotine Addiction
HB.2864 Sponsored by Representative *McMurty*
S.1218 Sponsored by Senator *Lewis*

Background:

While we have made important progress in the reduction of youth smoking, the use of new tobacco products like e-cigarettes is increasing among youth. Youth are particularly susceptible to nicotine addiction and nicotine has demonstrated harmful health impacts on the developing brain.

Fast Fact:



In MA, smoking-caused health problems cost approximately **\$4 billion**, annually



There are roughly **2,800** new youth smokers each year in MA

What the Bill Does:

- Raises the Minimum Legal Sales Age for all tobacco products to age 21
- Prohibits the use of any tobacco product on school grounds and other places where smoking is prohibited
- Prohibits the sale of all tobacco products in health care institutions, including pharmacies
- Prohibits e-cigarette use in smoke-free workplaces



Over **300,000** of the children in MA will become smokers, over **100,000** of them will die from smoking



9 in 10 cigarette smokers started smoking before the age 18