



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB0385, HD1  
RELATING TO HEALTH**

SENATOR JOSH GREEN, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH  
SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION  
Hearing Date: March 19, 2015                      Room Number: 229

1    **Fiscal Implications:** None.

2    **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports HB0385, HD1 as a policy  
3    strategy to reduce smoking and other tobacco product use by young persons.

4            This measure increases the minimum age in which one can sell, furnish, distribute or  
5    purchase tobacco or electronic smoking devices (ESDs) from the age of 18 to 21 years. The  
6    DOH suggests an effective date of 01/01/2016.

7            Tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable disease, disability, and death in the  
8    United States. Nationally, nearly 1,000 youth under the age of 18 become regular smokers daily,  
9    and almost one-third of them will die from it. In Hawaii, 10% of high school youth or 4,400  
10   youth currently smoke (2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey) and 15% of young adults, aged 18 to  
11   24 years (19,400) are also current smokers (2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System).

12           A new scientific report, issued by the Institute of Medicine on March 12, 2015, calculates  
13   the public health benefits of raising the Minimum age of Legal Access (MLA) to Tobacco  
14   Products. The report requested by the Food and Drug Administration, strongly concludes that  
15   increasing the age of sale for tobacco products to 21 will significantly reduce the number of  
16   adolescents and young adults who start smoking; reduce smoking-caused deaths; and  
17   immediately improve the health of adolescents, young adults and young mothers who would be  
18   deterred from smoking, as well as their children.

19           This report predicts that raising the MLA for tobacco products to 21 will, over time,  
20   reduce the smoking rate by 12 percent and smoking-related deaths by 10 percent. There would

1 be approximately 223,000 fewer premature deaths, 50,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer, and  
2 4.2 million fewer years of life lost for those born between 2000 and 2019.<sup>1</sup>

3 National data from the 2012 U.S. Surgeon General’s Report shows that 95% of adult  
4 smokers begin smoking before the age of 21 years, and 80% try their first cigarette before age  
5 18. Nearly half of adult smokers become regular, daily smokers before age 18; more than 75%  
6 become regular, daily smokers before they turn 21. This means the 18 to 21 year group is a time  
7 when many smokers transition to regular use of cigarettes. Tobacco companies heavily target  
8 young adults through a variety of marketing activities because they know it is a critical time  
9 period for solidifying nicotine addiction.

10 In addition to high tobacco taxes, comprehensive smoke-free laws, and comprehensive  
11 tobacco prevention and control programs, increasing the minimum legal sale age for tobacco  
12 products from 18 to 21 years has emerged as a recommended Centers for Disease Control and  
13 Prevention policy strategy to reduce youth tobacco use and help users quit. This is a growing  
14 trend nationally, as there are a number of municipalities, including New York City, that have  
15 passed similar legislation and three states – Utah, Washington State and California – have  
16 introduced “Age 21 Legislation” comparable to HB0385. Hawaii could lead the nation by  
17 becoming the first state to increase the minimum legal age for sale of tobacco products to 21.

18 The DOH supports the inclusion of ESDs in this bill as a key element in limiting access  
19 to this potentially hazardous product to persons under 21. The University of Hawaii Cancer  
20 Center, in a recent report, acknowledges that nearly half of all young adults in Hawaii have tried  
21 ESDs, and 28% reported using ESDs in the past 30 days.<sup>2</sup> ESD use is also increasing at an  
22 alarming rate among school aged youth. According to the Hawaii Youth Tobacco Survey, use of  
23 ESDs tripled among Hawaii high school students and quadrupled among middle school students  
24 from 2011 to 2013.

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<sup>1</sup> IOM (Institute of Medicine). 2015. *Public health implications of raising the minimum age of legal access to tobacco products*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.

<sup>2</sup> Pokhrel P, Little MA, Fagan P, Muranaka N, Herzog TA. *Electronic cigarette use outcome expectancies among college students*. *Addic Behav.* 2014 Un; 39(6): 1062-5

1           The passage of HB0385, HD1 would reduce the likelihood of high school students  
2 legally purchasing tobacco products for other underaged youth.<sup>3</sup> It could reduce the risk of  
3 young people transitioning to regular or daily use. Adolescents would find it more difficult to  
4 pass themselves off as 21-year olds than 18-year olds, and it would simplify identification checks  
5 for retailers.

6           The DOH is committed to providing legal signage, educational materials and information  
7 for retailers, enforcement agencies and the community if this bill is passed. Although this  
8 measure would not totally eliminate underage tobacco use, HB0385, HD1 is a viable strategy to  
9 reduce access to tobacco for a young and vulnerable population and prevent a lifelong addiction.  
10 **Offered Amendments:** The DOH recommends amending HB0385, HD1 by changing the  
11 effective date to 01/01/2016.

12           Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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<sup>3</sup> Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, “Increasing the Minimum Legal Sale Age for Tobacco Products to 21.”  
<http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0376.pdf>, Accessed on 3-17-15.

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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LOUIS M. KEALOHA  
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DAVE M. KAJIHIRO  
MARIE A. McCAULEY  
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE RA-YZ

March 19, 2015

The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
House of Representatives  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Green and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 385, H.D. 1, Relating to Health

I am Raymond Ancheta, Major of the Community Affairs Division, Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports House Bill No. 385, H.D. 1, Relating to Health. This bill increases the minimum age to purchase tobacco products to twenty-one years old. As law enforcement officers, our primary mission is protecting lives. Preventing those below the age of twenty-one from purchasing tobacco products will hopefully allow them to make the informed decision to stay away from tobacco products and the life threatening effects they cause.

The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 385, H.D. 1, Relating to Health.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond Ancheta", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Raymond Ancheta, Major  
Community Affairs Division

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis M. Kealoha", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.  
Louis M. Kealoha  
Chief of Police



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Health  
and  
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
March 19, 2015 at 9:00 am  
By  
Robert Bley-Vroman, Chancellor  
and  
Jerris Hedges, MD, MS, MMM  
Dean, John A. Burns School of Medicine  
Interim Director, University of Hawai'i Cancer Center  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### HB 385 HD1 – RELATING TO HEALTH

Chairs Green and Baker, Vice Chairs Wakai and Taniguchi, and Members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai'i supports this bill.

The UH Cancer Center is one of only 68 institutions in the United States that hold the prestigious National Cancer Institute (NCI) designation, and is the only NCI-designated center in the Pacific. The NCI designation provides greater access to federal funding and research opportunities, and gives the people of Hawai'i and the Pacific region access to innovative and potentially life-saving clinical trials without the necessity of traveling to the mainland. Our passion at the UH Cancer Center is to be a world leader in eliminating cancer through research, education and improved patient care.

Because tobacco consumption is a leading preventable cause of cancer, we take issues related to tobacco very seriously, and have always supported strong tobacco control measures in Hawai'i.

Likewise, our perspective on electronic smoking devices is informed by scientific literature, including research done by our faculty at the UH Cancer Center. For example, research conducted in Hawai'i high schools by Thomas Wills, PhD, has confirmed that rates of e-cigarette use by Hawai'i adolescents are at least double the rate of e-cigarette use observed in studies of mainland adolescents. Furthermore, his study published in the peer-reviewed journal *Pediatrics* clarified a reason why e-cigarette use is growing nationally among teens, as his data suggest that e-cigarettes may be operating to recruit lower-risk adolescents to smoking. And recently Pallav Pokhrel, PhD, and Thaddeus Herzog, PhD, published on the topic of e-cigarettes and motivation to quit smoking. Drs. Pokhrel and Herzog also assessed differences between smokers who used e-cigarettes to quit versus those who used FDA-approved nicotine

replacement therapy. Additionally, these researchers have published on the effects of e-cigarette marketing on harm perceptions, as well as e-cigarette use expectancies and their impact on e-cigarette use among young adults. This research is vital to gaining an evidence-based understanding of what drives acceptance of this emerging technology, what users believe regarding its safety, and what the consequences are for adolescents, whose brains are particularly susceptible to nicotine.

As scientific research on electronic smoking devices progresses, we will have a stronger basis to adjust laws according to evidence. At the present time, however, caution is warranted. As others have noted, the FDA currently does not regulate e-cigarettes, and thus the consumer has no assurances regarding e-cigarette ingredients. Further, because of the novelty of e-cigarettes, the long term effects of using these devices are unknown. A further concern, not often discussed, is the potential for electronic smoking devices to be used as drug delivery devices for substances other than nicotine.

We respectfully urge you to pass this bill.



## American Heart Association Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 385, HD1 “RELATING TO HEALTH”

The American Heart Association SUPPORTS HB 385, HD1 “Relating to Health.”.

Tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable death in the United States, killing more than 400,000 people each year. It is known to cause heart disease, stroke, cancer, and respiratory diseases, among other health disorders, and costs the U.S. \$96 billion in health care expenditures each year. Nearly 1,000 kids under the age of 18 become regular, daily smokers each day; and almost one-third will die from it.

In addition to high tobacco taxes, comprehensive smoke-free laws and comprehensive tobacco control and prevention programs, increasing the minimum legal sale age (MLSA) for tobacco products from 18 to 21 has emerged as another policy strategy to reduce youth tobacco use and help users quit. The concept of increasing the MLSA is not new, however.

New laws to increase the tobacco sale age to 21 were recently approved in Hawai'i County; New York City; Suffolk County, NY; Evanston, IL; Englewood, NJ; and numerous communities in Massachusetts

Because it is a relatively new strategy, direct research on increasing the MLSA to 21 is somewhat limited; but the data that are available provide strong reason to believe that it will contribute to reductions in youth tobacco use. Central to the MLSA strategy are the facts that many smokers transition to regular, daily use between the ages of 18 and 21; many young adult smokers serve as a social source of tobacco products for youth; and tobacco companies have long viewed young adults ages 18 to 21 as a target market group.

Nicotine is incredibly addictive, and adolescents and young adults are more susceptible to its effects because their brains are still developing. Delaying the age when young people first experiment with or begin using tobacco can reduce the risk that they will become addicted smokers.

About 700 kids under the age of 18 become regular smokers each day – one in three will eventually die as result. We should do everything we can to prevent young people from smoking and save lives. Increasing the minimum legal age of sale for tobacco products to 21 will help achieve these goals.

The AHA urges your support of HB 385, HD1.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Weisman  
Hawaii Government Relations Director

*“Building healthier lives,  
free of cardiovascular  
diseases and stroke.”*

life is why™ es por la vida™ 全为生命™

Please remember the American Heart Association in your will.



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**Date:** Monday, March 16, 2015 12:20:17 AM

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**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Teresa Parsons	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I stand in strong support of this bill. Research demonstrates the earlier an individual begins nicotine products, the more difficult to quit. Increasing the age to purchase nicotine products can assist in curbing early onset addiction to nicotine products. As I care for patients who have respiratory diseases caused by nicotine, I can attest to the severe effects of nicotine. The impact on the public's health is significant, and this bill is a step in the right direction. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

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**Testimony of Professor Mark A. Levin *in strong support* for HB 385 HD1**

**RELATING TO HEALTH**

**Senate Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection, and Health  
March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229**

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*Chairs Baker and Green, Vice-Chairs Taniguchi and Wakai, and members of the Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection, and Health:*

Aloha. The dangers from tobacco products -- both incendiary and vapor devices -- are supremely compounded by the addictiveness of nicotine. Medical doctors would explain that the process begins with the development of nicotine receptors in our brains. And younger brains, still the most "under construction," are where receptors can develop fastest and most securely.

This is what lies at the base of the Big Tobacco's money machine. That industry, which has never been a friend to the people of our state, also knows that it is the poor judgments of youth and young adults that make them the full-on targets of constant product marketing, the industry's devastating art.

By barring sales in Hawai'i to youth and young adults before age 21, we'll have fewer in our state becoming addicted, fewer fighting the battle to quit, and fewer losing the battle and dying from cancer and the other diseases caused by tobacco use. Just as we are seeing other communities such as New York City taking action, and just as the Hawai'i County so smartly has already done, we will be getting ahead of the game for the 21st century for our state.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 385 HD1. I strongly support raising the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

*Mahalo.*

Professor Mark A. Levin  
The William S. Richardson School of Law  
The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa  
2515 Dole St., Honolulu, HI 96822  
Tel: 1-808-956-3302

Affiliations are given for identification purposes only. Opinions presented here are personal views and not the official views of the University of Hawai'i or any other organization or entity.



To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair, Committee on Health  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair, Committee on Health  
Members, Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair, Committee on Commerce and Consumer  
Protection

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair, Committee on Commerce and Consumer  
Protection

Members, Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

From: Jessica Yamauchi, Executive Director

Date: March 17, 2015

Hrg: Senate Committees on Health and Commerce and Consumer Protection; Thurs., March  
19, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in Rm 229

Re: **Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health**

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Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in **strong support of HB 385, HD1**, which raises the age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

The Coalition for a Tobacco Free Hawaii (Coalition) is a program of the Hawaii Public Health Institute working to reduce tobacco use through education, policy and advocacy. Our program consists of over 100 member organizations and 2,000 advocates that work to create a healthy Hawaii through comprehensive tobacco prevention and control efforts.

**The Coalition supports raising the age of sale of tobacco products to 21 to help prevent the initiation of tobacco use among youth.**

5,600 kids in Hawaii try smoking for the first time each year as a result 1,400 of them become regular smokers each year.<sup>1</sup> According to the US Surgeon General's report in 2012, 95% of all adult smokers start smoking before the age of 21.<sup>2</sup> Three out of four teen smokers continue to smoke into adulthood, even if they intend to quit.<sup>3</sup> 1,200 people die from tobacco use or exposure in Hawaii each year.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Hawaii State Department of Health, Tobacco Prevention and Education Program. (2011). *Data Highlights from the 2011 Hawaii Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS) and Comparisons with Prior Years*. Available at [http://health.hawaii.gov/about/files/2013/06/2011\\_HYTS.pdf](http://health.hawaii.gov/about/files/2013/06/2011_HYTS.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Preventing Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General. Atlanta, GA: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2012.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0127.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, *The Toll of Tobacco in Hawaii*.  
[http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts\\_issues/toll\\_us/hawaii](http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts_issues/toll_us/hawaii)



Delaying the age that youth begin using tobacco will reduce the risk that they will become regular smokers as they get older, leading to lower prevalence rates and saving millions of dollars in health care costs.<sup>5</sup> Risk for smoking-caused diseases increases depending on how long the person smokes, and smokers who start at a young age are among the heaviest users.<sup>6</sup> Tobacco use causes \$132 billion in health care costs in the US each year<sup>7</sup>, including \$526 million the State of Hawaii.<sup>8</sup> The measure is expected to reduce these health risks and costs.

In 2013, New York City and Hawaii County, were the third and fourth jurisdictions in the country to pass laws that raise the minimum legal age of sale of tobacco to 21. Since then, more than 40 jurisdictions have passed similar laws. This initiative is growing as officials recognize this as a key prevention measure. With an increasing number of 18 years olds attending high school, there is growing concern of the access underage youth have to tobacco products. This policy would eliminate illegal distribution of tobacco products on high school campuses.

It is important to protect the younger generations from tobacco use. Tobacco companies still market to youth and spend over \$24 million per day on marketing. U.S. District Court Judge Gladys Kessler Final Opinion in the court case *United States v. Philip Morris* stated, “From the 1950s to the present, different defendants, at different times and using different methods, have intentionally marketed to young people under the age of twenty-one in order to recruit ‘replacement smokers’ to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry.” Tobacco companies have admitted in their business plans, if they don’t capture new users by their early twenties, it is very unlikely that they ever will. Raising the age will help decrease the amount of replacement smokers and keep young people protected from the marketing.

Following the Hawaii County Ordinance there was great support by the community, state agencies, retailers, and the media. The *Star Advertiser* “applaud[ed] Hawaii County for enacting a law that raises the legal age for buying tobacco products from 18 to 21, leading the way not only in the islands but in the country as a whole. . .”<sup>9</sup> An independent poll conducted by SMS in 2014 for the Coalition found that 77% of Hawaii residents support a law raising the age of sale of tobacco to 21.

A new scientific report issued last week by the Institute of Medicine (IOM) concludes that increasing the age of sale for tobacco products to 21 will have a substantial positive impact on public health. Raising the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco products would add 4.2 million more years of life to the next generation of American adults. Nearly a quarter-million fewer premature deaths and 50,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer among people born between

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<sup>5</sup> <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0127.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0127.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, *Toll of Tobacco in the USA*  
<http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/research/factsheets/pdf/0072.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, *The Toll of Tobacco in Hawaii*.  
[http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts\\_issues/toll\\_us/hawaii](http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/facts_issues/toll_us/hawaii)

<sup>9</sup> *Star Advertiser*, “State should raise age to buy tobacco,” July 7, 2014. Available at  
[http://www.staradvertiser.com/editorialpremium/20140706\\_State\\_should\\_raise\\_age\\_to\\_buy\\_tobacco.html?id=265943971&id=265943971&c=n](http://www.staradvertiser.com/editorialpremium/20140706_State_should_raise_age_to_buy_tobacco.html?id=265943971&id=265943971&c=n)



2000 and 2019 is expected. Predicted smoking prevalence would fall from 17.8% to an estimated 12% with the minimum age set at 21. Youth are more vulnerable to addiction as their brains are still developing. Youth between the ages of 15 and 17 would benefit the most from raising the minimum age of legal access more in line with the minimum age to buy alcohol.<sup>10</sup>

### **The Coalition will work with state departments on enforcement and implementation**

The Coalition is willing to provide educational materials and any pertinent research to all state agencies and enforcement departments, such as the Honolulu Police Department, regarding the new law should it pass. Before Hawaii County Ordinance 13-124 went into effect on July 1, 2014, the Coalition, in partnership with the Mayor's Office, Councilmember Kanuha's Office, and the Department of Health provided informational briefings for retailers. Many retailers from the tobacco and e-cigarette industry came and received information from the Hawaii County Police Department and Prosecutor's Office. The Coalition plans to work with the Department of Health to provide the same opportunities if this measure were to pass.

The Coalition recommends an effective date of January 1, 2016 in order to allow time for education and signage production and distribution.

Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are now protected in over 58 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21. This measure will continue to place Hawaii at the forefront of tobacco prevention and control. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica Yamauchi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Jessica Yamauchi, MA  
Executive Director

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<sup>10</sup> Public Health Implications of Raising the Minimum Age of Legal Access to Tobacco Products, Institute of Medicine, March 12<sup>th</sup> : <http://www.iom.edu/Reports/2015/TobaccoMinimumAgeReport.aspx>

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**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jake J. Watkins	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anthony Orozco	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Tourists under 21 will have to quit while they are in Hawaii. Being mean to tourists like that is bad news.

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**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jessica Chang	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tina	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Strongly opposed. Young adults should have the same rights as everyone else.

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**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kathy Kim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Oshiro	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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UNIVERSITY  
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MĀNOA

University Health Services Mānoa  
Health Promotion Program

March 17, 2015

TO: Members of the Senate Committees on Health and Commerce and Consumer Protection

RE: HB 385, HD1 (2015) – **SUPPORT**

Date: Tuesdays March 17, 2015

FROM: Members of the University of Hawaii Student Health Advisory Council

The University of Hawaii Student Health Advisory Council strongly supports the efforts to pass HB 385, HD1 which will raise the age of sale of all tobacco products to 21 years old.

The Student Health Advisory Council is a student leadership and advocacy group that plays a pivotal role in the development and implementation of the health policies and programs that impact the UH System campuses. Tobacco companies target youth and young adults with marketing and advertising designed to get individuals addicted at an early age. In response, we are committed to the mission of improving college health by reducing the use of tobacco products including electronic smoking devices among the adolescent and young adult population.

Tobacco products pose not only a serious public health concern, but are also a detrimental distraction to the learning environment. Therefore, the Student Health Advisory Council strongly supports HB 385, HD1.

*Mahalo nui loa*, for your efforts to protect the young people of Hawaii.

Aloha,

Stormy Dodge, Blane Garcia & Ku‘uleialohaonalani Salzer –Co Chairs

UH Student Health Advisory Council

2600 Campus Rd #313D

Honolulu, HI 96822

Telephone: (808) 956-3574/956-3453

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [mikenakas@hotmail.com](mailto:mikenakas@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB385 on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 11:01:33 AM

---

**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael S. Nakasone	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [1hawaii4me@gmail.com](mailto:1hawaii4me@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB385 on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 11:49:20 AM

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**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mark Dietrich	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [susanlarson78@gmx.com](mailto:susanlarson78@gmx.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB385 on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 12:22:10 PM

---

**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Larson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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To: Senate Committee on Health  
Senator Josh Green, Chair  
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair  
Senator Brian Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Date: March 17, 2015

Hrg: Senate Committee on Health and Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection; March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Re: **Testimony in Strong SUPPORT of HB 385 HD 1 – RELATING TO HEALTH**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in Strong Support of HB 385, HD 1 – Relating to Health, which will raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco products and electronic cigarettes to 21 years of age.

Tobacco remains the leading cause of preventable death, with over 480,000 deaths in the US and over 1400 in Hawaii last year. To replace these smokers the tobacco industry heavily markets to our most vulnerable population, youth and young adults. Because of this over 4000 youth in Hawaii smoke their very first cigarette each day, and 1000 become new daily smokers. As a result, these youth will die 13 years earlier than their non-smoking peers, and will suffer from more chronic health problems throughout their lives. However by raising the legal age of sale to 21, one smoking induced death will be averted for every three youth prevented from smoking.

Most underage smokers obtain their cigarettes from someone close to them who is of legal age. A 15-year-old high school student is more likely to have an 18-year-old in their social circle, but much less likely to be close to someone who is 21. Raising the age of sale of tobacco products and electronic cigarettes will help protect our high schools, make it harder for youth to access cigarettes, and reduce the likelihood that our youth will start smoking and become regular daily smokers.

No longer under the guidance of parents, and easily influenced by peers and the tobacco industry, more and more 17 and 18-year-old college freshmen are starting to experiment with smoking cigarettes. In fact 95% of all smokers begin smoking before the age of 21. Many start off as occasional or *social smokers*, only smoking in social situations or when they see someone else smoking. However, despite a strong desire to quit, over 40% of these *social smokers* become addicted to nicotine and become lifelong smokers. Help prevent these young adults from lifelong addiction by raising the legal age of sale to 21.

Last week the Institute of Medicine (IOM) released a report on raising the legal age of sale for tobacco products from 18 to 21 in the US. They concluded that this simple change would result in approximately 223,000 fewer premature deaths for those born between 2000 and 2019, as well as result in 12% fewer smokers by the year 2100. Join Hawaii

County and the other 40 jurisdictions across the US that have already passed legislation to raise the legal age of sale for tobacco products to 21 and protect the health of Hawaii's future generation.

Respectfully,

Lisa Kehl, MSW, MPH, LSW  
Prevention Specialist/Counselor  
Alcohol and other Drug Education Program (ADEP)  
University Health Services, Health Promotion Program  
University of Hawaii at Manoa

Affiliations are given for identification purposes only. Opinions presented here are personal views and not the official views of the University of Hawaii or any other organization or entity.



**From:** [Maile Corpus](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 2:51:17 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

Tobacco use is still the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and in Hawai`i, and costs our state over \$526 million in healthcare expenditures every year.

According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find "replacement smokers" to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, "raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share."

Delaying the age that youth begin using tobacco will reduce the risk that they will become regular smokers as they get older, leading to lower prevalence rates and saving millions of dollars in health care costs. With an increasing number of 18 year olds attending high school, there is growing concern of the access underage youth have to tobacco products. This policy would eliminate the pressures of illegally distributing tobacco products to high school students.

According to the Institute of Medicine, raising the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco products would add 4.2 million more years of life to the next generation of American adults. Nearly a quarter-million fewer premature deaths and 50,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer among people born between 2000 and 2019. Predicted smoking prevalence would fall from 17.8% to an estimated 12% with the minimum age set at 21.

Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,  
Maile Corpus

Maile Corpus

Honolulu, HI 96814



**From:** [Joseph Keawe'aimoku Kaholokula](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 2:51:20 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Joseph Keawe'aimoku Kaholokula  
581 Kamoku Street, Apt. 904  
Honolulu, HI 96826

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [gohawks4krening@gmail.com](mailto:gohawks4krening@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB385 on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 2:52:14 PM

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**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Craig Krening	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**From:** [Pablo Penaloza](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 2:52:14 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

Tobacco use is still the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and in Hawai`i, and costs our state over \$526 million in healthcare expenditures every year.

According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find "replacement smokers" to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, "raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share."

Delaying the age that youth begin using tobacco will reduce the risk that they will become regular smokers as they get older, leading to lower prevalence rates and saving millions of dollars in health care costs. With an increasing number of 18 year olds attending high school, there is growing concern of the access underage youth have to tobacco products. This policy would eliminate the pressures of illegally distributing tobacco products to high school students.

According to the Institute of Medicine, raising the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco products would add 4.2 million more years of life to the next generation of American adults. Nearly a quarter-million fewer premature deaths and 50,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer among people born between 2000 and 2019. Predicted smoking prevalence would fall from 17.8% to an estimated 12% with the minimum age set at 21.

Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Pablo Penaloza  
75-378 nani kailua drive  
kailua kona, hi 96740  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740



**From:** [Kenneth Nakamura](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 2:55:53 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Kenneth Nakamura  
1319 Punahou St  
Honolulu, HI 96826

**From:** [Bev Brody](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 2:56:30 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Bev Brody  
4751 Wailapa Road  
Kilauea, HI 96754



**From:** [Cheryl Reeser](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 2:59:08 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Cheryl Reeser  
51-E Kealaloa Ave  
Makawao, HI 96768

**From:** [Maile Goo](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 2:59:43 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,  
Maile Goo  
3683 Woodlawn Terrace Place  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Maile Goo

3683 Woodlawn Terrace Place  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**From:** [Forrest Batz](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:00:31 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Aloha Senate Committee on Health,

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According to the Institute of Medicine, raising the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco products would add 4.2 million more years of life to the next generation of American adults. And, result in nearly a quarter-million fewer premature deaths and 50,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer among people born between 2000 and 2019. Predicted smoking prevalence would fall from 17.8% to an estimated 12% with the minimum age of purchase set at 21.

Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the US. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I strongly support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Forrest Batz, PharmD

Forrest Batz  
34 Rainbow Drive  
Keaau, HI 96749

**From:** [shay Chan Hodges](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:04:20 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

shay Chan Hodges  
37 Puu Koa Place  
Haiku, HI 96708

**From:** [Shilpa Patel](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:04:33 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

Tobacco use is still the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and in Hawai`i, and costs our state over \$526 million in healthcare expenditures every year.

According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find “replacement smokers” to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, “raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share.”

Delaying the age that youth begin using tobacco will reduce the risk that they will become regular smokers as they get older, leading to lower prevalence rates and saving millions of dollars in health care costs. With an increasing number of 18 year olds attending high school, there is growing concern of the access underage youth have to tobacco products. This policy would eliminate the pressures of illegally distributing tobacco products to high school students.

According to the Institute of Medicine, raising the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco products would add 4.2 million more years of life to the next generation of American adults. Nearly a quarter-million fewer premature deaths and 50,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer among people born between 2000 and 2019. Predicted smoking prevalence would fall from 17.8% to an estimated 12% with the minimum age set at 21.

Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Shilpa Patel

Honolulu, HI 96822

**From:** [Patti Ornellas](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:06:54 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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Tobacco use is still the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and in Hawai`i, and costs our state over \$526 million in healthcare expenditures every year.

According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find "replacement smokers" to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, "raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share."

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Patti Ornellas  
3343 Kanakolu Street  
Lihue, HI 96766



**From:** [Michelle Gray](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:07:34 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

Tobacco use is still the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and in Hawai`i, and costs our state over \$526 million in healthcare expenditures every year.

According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find "replacement smokers" to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, "raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share."

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Michelle Gray  
430 Lanipuaa Street  
Honolulu, HI 96825

**From:** [Jessanie Marques](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:09:05 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

Tobacco use is still the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and in Hawai`i, and costs our state over \$526 million in healthcare expenditures every year.

According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find “replacement smokers” to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, “raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share.”

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Jessanie Marques  
96-1137 Ohia St  
Pahala, HI 96777

**From:** [Grace Lim](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:12:55 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

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According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find “replacement smokers” to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, “raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share.”

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Grace Lim  
1561 Pensacola St #1503  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**From:** [Jessica Spurrier](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:13:17 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

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According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find "replacement smokers" to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, "raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share."

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According to the Institute of Medicine, raising the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco products would add 4.2 million more years of life to the next generation of American adults. Nearly a quarter-million fewer premature deaths and 50,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer among people born between 2000 and 2019. Predicted smoking prevalence would fall from 17.8% to an estimated 12% with the minimum age set at 21.

Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Jessica Spurrier  
45-027A Lilipuna Pl  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [Barbara Nosaka](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:14:13 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

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According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find "replacement smokers" to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, "raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share."

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Barbara Nosaka  
2216 Hoonanea Street  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**From:** [Ann Marie Thompson](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:16:25 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Ann Marie Thompson

Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [Michael Kellar](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:18:31 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Michael Kellar  
45-401 Mokulele Dr. #32  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [Rebecca Knight](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:25:01 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Rebecca Knight  
2439 Kapiolani Blvd #1004  
Honolulu, HI 96826



**From:** [Ronald Kuriki](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:37:30 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Ronald Kuriki  
1655-C Palolo Avenue  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**From:** [Wendi Hirsch](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:37:32 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Wendi Hirsch

Honolulu, HI 96815

**From:** [Jennifer Griffith](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:39:05 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

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According to the Institute of Medicine, raising the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco products would add 4.2 million more years of life to the next generation of American adults. Nearly a quarter-million fewer premature deaths and 50,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer among people born between 2000 and 2019. Predicted smoking prevalence would fall from 17.8% to an estimated 12% with the minimum age set at 21.

Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Jennifer Griffith  
PO Box 399  
Honolulu, HI 96728

**From:** [Dr. Patrick O'Donnell](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:39:35 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

Tobacco use is still the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and in Hawai`i, and costs our state over \$526 million in healthcare expenditures every year.

According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find "replacement smokers" to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, "raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share."

Delaying the age that youth begin using tobacco will reduce the risk that they will become regular smokers as they get older, leading to lower prevalence rates and saving millions of dollars in health care costs. With an increasing number of 18 year olds attending high school, there is growing concern of the access underage youth have to tobacco products. This policy would eliminate the pressures of illegally distributing tobacco products to high school students.

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Dr. Patrick O'Donnell  
1319 Punahou St.  
Ste 1120  
Honolulu, HI 96826



**From:** [Boyd, Manager Richard Boyd](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 3:53:31 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Boyd, Manager Richard Boyd  
250 Kawaihae St  
250 Kawaihae St  
Honolulu, HI 96825



**From:** [Toni Symons](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 4:04:17 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Toni Symons  
P.O. Box 3317  
Kailua Kona, HI 96745



**From:** [Janelle Kubo](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 4:24:15 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Janelle Kubo  
2860 Waialae Ave.  
Apt. 114  
Honolulu, HI 96826



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [michrobins3@myself.com](mailto:michrobins3@myself.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB385 on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 4:37:40 PM

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**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michelle Robinson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**From:** [Abraham Jose](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 4:38:35 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

Tobacco use is still the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and in Hawai`i, and costs our state over \$526 million in healthcare expenditures every year.

According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find “replacement smokers” to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, “raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share.”

Delaying the age that youth begin using tobacco will reduce the risk that they will become regular smokers as they get older, leading to lower prevalence rates and saving millions of dollars in health care costs. With an increasing number of 18 year olds attending high school, there is growing concern of the access underage youth have to tobacco products. This policy would eliminate the pressures of illegally distributing tobacco products to high school students.

According to the Institute of Medicine, raising the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco products would add 4.2 million more years of life to the next generation of American adults. Nearly a quarter-million fewer premature deaths and 50,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer among people born between 2000 and 2019. Predicted smoking prevalence would fall from 17.8% to an estimated 12% with the minimum age set at 21.

Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Abraham Jose  
1377 Kapiolani  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [Jayson O'Donnell](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 4:42:52 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Jayson O'Donnell  
3311 Campbell Ave  
Honolulu, HI 96815

**From:** [Floyd Rhoades](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 4:43:40 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Floyd Rhoades  
75-295 Aloha Kona  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

**From:** [Melissa Data](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 4:48:02 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Melissa Data  
47-498 Apoalewa Pl  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

**From:** [pat fleck](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 4:58:44 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today. Mahalo!

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Fleck

pat fleck  
75-5660 Kopico Street, Ste. C7-330  
kailua kona, HI 96740





**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [mz9995@hotmail.com](mailto:mz9995@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB385 on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 5:17:03 PM

---

**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Zehner	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: All States that have had a 21 year old bill proposed have rejected it. It's sad that Hawaii could be the shameful first to deny veterans and tourists aged 18-20.99 coming to or back to Hawaii their basic civil rights.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**From:** [Smitha Varricatt](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 5:22:02 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,  
Smitha Varricatt

Smitha Varricatt  
89 Palani St  
Hilo, HI 96720



**From:** [Martha Yamada](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 5:36:43 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Martha Yamada  
912 Puku Street  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [protechoahu@gmail.com](mailto:protechoahu@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB385 on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 6:04:24 PM

---

**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Clayton Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [darkkittywhitty@gmail.com](mailto:darkkittywhitty@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB385 on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 6:08:13 PM

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**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Monika Lopez	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**From:** [Erica Meyer](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 6:19:28 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

Tobacco use is still the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and in Hawai`i, and costs our state over \$526 million in healthcare expenditures every year.

According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find “replacement smokers” to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, “raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share.”

Delaying the age that youth begin using tobacco will reduce the risk that they will become regular smokers as they get older, leading to lower prevalence rates and saving millions of dollars in health care costs. With an increasing number of 18 year olds attending high school, there is growing concern of the access underage youth have to tobacco products. This policy would eliminate the pressures of illegally distributing tobacco products to high school students.

According to the Institute of Medicine, raising the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco products would add 4.2 million more years of life to the next generation of American adults. Nearly a quarter-million fewer premature deaths and 50,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer among people born between 2000 and 2019. Predicted smoking prevalence would fall from 17.8% to an estimated 12% with the minimum age set at 21.

Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Erica Meyer

Wailuku, HI 96793



**From:** [Dawn Pung](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 6:44:10 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Dawn Pung  
645 Ainako Avenue  
Hilo, HI 96720

**From:** [Valerie Yontz](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 6:44:37 PM

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March 17th, 2015

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The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Thanks you. Dr. Valerie Yontz

Valerie Yontz  
677 Auwina Street  
677 Auwina Street Kailua, HI 96734-3430  
Kailua, HI 96734



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [timlemke20@yahoo.com](mailto:timlemke20@yahoo.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB385 on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 7:23:25 PM

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**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tim Lemke	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**From:** [Brendon Friedman](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 7:27:24 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

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According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find “replacement smokers” to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, “raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share.”

Delaying the age that youth begin using tobacco will reduce the risk that they will become regular smokers as they get older, leading to lower prevalence rates and saving millions of dollars in health care costs. With an increasing number of 18 year olds attending high school, there is growing concern of the access underage youth have to tobacco products. This policy would eliminate the pressures of illegally distributing tobacco products to high school students.

According to the Institute of Medicine, raising the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco products would add 4.2 million more years of life to the next generation of American adults. Nearly a quarter-million fewer premature deaths and 50,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer among people born between 2000 and 2019. Predicted smoking prevalence would fall from 17.8% to an estimated 12% with the minimum age set at 21.

Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Brendon Friedman

Honolulu, HI 96822

**From:** [Kanani Kilbey](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 7:27:29 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Kanani Kilbey  
1319 Punahou Street, 7th floor  
Attn: Dr. Bryan Mih, HEALTHY program  
Honolulu, HI 96826



**From:** [Michelle Quensell](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 7:42:38 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Michelle Quensell

Honolulu, HI 96813



**From:** [Bryan Mih](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 7:47:31 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Dear Committee Members:

As a pediatrician and medical director of the HEALTHY Quit Smoking Program, I strongly support HB 385, HD1, raising the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

The early initiation of smoking before age 21 is an important problem to address. Over 90% of all adult smokers started when they were younger than 21. A higher purchase age effectively reduces access for those under 18 as well, since the vast majority of their supply comes from young adults aged 18-20. With an increasing number of 18 year olds attending high school, there is growing concern of the access underage youth have to tobacco products. This policy would eliminate the pressures of illegally distributing tobacco products to high school students.

The young adult brain is not fully developed at age 18 to 21. Impulsivity and risk-taking is higher, while the reward centers of the brain are more susceptible to the effects of nicotine. Tobacco companies have known about this for many years and specifically targeted young adults under age 21 as their brain chemistry makes them more likely to become addicted to nicotine.

Tobacco use is still the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and in Hawai`i, and costs our state over \$336 million in healthcare expenditures every year. I urge you to consider the adverse health effects from tobacco use.

I care for many children that suffer from secondhand smoke, as well as young people who start tobacco use and remain addicted to nicotine for their lifetimes. On a daily basis, I see newborn infants, children, adolescents, and young adults that are adversely affected by tobacco exposure. Effects include low birth weight in infants, increased respiratory infections in children, or asthma exacerbation in all age groups.

Tobacco companies have been proven to aim their marketing and advertising to children and young adults. By reducing access to tobacco for those under 21, we improve the health outcomes for many, and prevent the normalization of tobacco use for young people.

Thank you for your consideration and support of this important bill.

Sincerely,

Bryan Mih, MD, MPH, FAAP  
Pediatrician

Bryan Mih  
1944 Naniu Pl  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**From:** [Daria Fand](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 7:52:20 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,  
Daria Fand  
Community Advocate

Daria Fand  
1545 Kalakaua Ave., Apt. 709

Honolulu, HI 96826

**From:** [Rebecca Williams](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 7:56:41 PM

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March 17th, 2015

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The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Rebecca Williams  
736 Hawaii St  
Honolulu, HI 96817

**From:** [Stephen Wehrman](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 8:23:02 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today. It's good public health and good science.

Mahalo,

Stephen F. Wehrman RRT RPFT  
Professor Emeritus  
Respiratory Care  
UH/KCC

Stephen Wehrman  
4340 Pahoia Ave 9D  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [freedom1979hi@gmail.com](mailto:freedom1979hi@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB385 on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:00:08 PM

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**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cindy Nettles	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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**From:** [randy taniguchi](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:45:40 PM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

randy taniguchi  
2712A Pali hwy  
Honolulu, HI 96817

**From:** [Harald Ebeling](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 9:59:09 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
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Members of the Senate Committee on Health

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According to the Institute of Medicine, raising the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco products would add 4.2 million more years of life to the next generation of American adults, and would result in nearly a quarter-million fewer premature deaths and 50,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer among people born between 2000 and 2019. Predicted smoking prevalence would fall from 17.8% to an estimated 12% with the minimum age set at 21.

Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally: young people are already protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Harald Ebeling  
2851 Lawa Pl  
Honolulu, HI 96822



**From:** [Helen Barrow](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 10:51:46 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

Tobacco use is still the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and in Hawai`i, and costs our state over \$526 million in healthcare expenditures every year.

According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find “replacement smokers” to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, “raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share.”

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According to the Institute of Medicine, raising the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco products would add 4.2 million more years of life to the next generation of American adults. Nearly a quarter-million fewer premature deaths and 50,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer among people born between 2000 and 2019. Predicted smoking prevalence would fall from 17.8% to an estimated 12% with the minimum age set at 21.

Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Helen Barrow  
Makawao  
Makawao, HI 96768

**From:** [Lani Nagao](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 11:30:19 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Lani Nagao  
2850 Kapena St.  
Lihue, HI 96766

**From:** [Poranee Sponsel](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 11:32:37 PM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Poranee Sponsel  
521 Hahaione St  
Honolulu, HI 96825

I stand in opposition to HB385 for the following reasons:

- Raising the age of nicotine consumption to 21 means that nicotine is as harmful as alcohol however this is not true and the law reflects this. It is illegal to drink alcohol then drive a vehicle because it impairs judgement, nicotine does not have this effect. During a lunch break at work a person can smoke a cigarette, chew tobacco or use an electronic cigarette. The same is not true for alcohol. The effect of alcohol is significantly different than the effects of nicotine hence for years the age requirements of the two have been 3 years apart. If you raise the age of nicotine to 21 then the age of alcohol needs to be raised to 24.
- Currently the legal age of smoking cigarettes is 18 yet still I see people looking under the age of 18 smoking cigarettes. Cigarettes are around \$8-\$10 per pack. If the age requirement of electronic cigarettes were raised to 21 I strongly believe we will see an increase in the amount of under 21 smoking cigarettes due to the easier price point. If we are truly attempting to get people off of nicotine taking away a 20 year olds ability to purchase electronic cigarettes that range from \$10 and up with an average of about \$80 pushes them into the easier market of the \$9 cancer stick?
- Electronic cigarette sales are providing a good source of revenue for everyone from shop owners, employees and state taxes. Raising the age to 21 would hurt all 3 & eventually many small shops may be forced out of business causing everyone to lose revenue.

**From:** [Solange Patrick](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 18, 2015 4:20:43 AM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB 385, HD1, which raises the legal age of sale of tobacco products and electronic smoking devices to 21.

Tobacco use is still the leading cause of preventable death in the United States and in Hawai`i, and costs our state over \$526 million in healthcare expenditures every year.

According to the Surgeon General, 95 percent of adult smokers start smoking before they turn 21. Tobacco companies intentionally target youth to find “replacement smokers” to ensure the economic future of the tobacco industry. According to a Philip Morris report, “raising the legal minimum age for cigarette purchaser to 21 could gut our key young adult market (17-20) where we sell about 25 billion cigarettes and enjoy a 70 percent market share.”

Delaying the age that youth begin using tobacco will reduce the risk that they will become regular smokers as they get older, leading to lower prevalence rates and saving millions of dollars in health care costs. With an increasing number of 18 year olds attending high school, there is growing concern of the access underage youth have to tobacco products. This policy would eliminate the pressures of illegally distributing tobacco products to high school students.

According to the Institute of Medicine, raising the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco products would add 4.2 million more years of life to the next generation of American adults. Nearly a quarter-million fewer premature deaths and 50,000 fewer deaths from lung cancer among people born between 2000 and 2019. Predicted smoking prevalence would fall from 17.8% to an estimated 12% with the minimum age set at 21.

Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Solange Patrick  
5842 Apelila Rd  
Kapaa, HI 96746



**From:** [Pebbles Fagan](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 18, 2015 5:17:57 AM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Pebbles Fagan  
1199 Bishop Street 23A  
23A  
Honolulu, HI 96813



**From:** [Kirsten Ralston](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 18, 2015 5:35:39 AM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Kirsten Ralston  
PO box 10528  
Honolulu, HI 96816

**From:** [Kim Swartz](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 18, 2015 6:41:08 AM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Kim Swartz  
98-1394 Hinu Pl B  
Pearl City, HI 96782

**From:** [Valerie Rose](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 18, 2015 7:13:17 AM

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March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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Raising the age of sale of tobacco is a growing trend nationally where young people are protected in over 50 cities/counties in 7 states in the United States. Hawaii has the opportunity to be the first state to raise the age of sale of tobacco products to 21.

I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Valerie Rose  
2542 Date Street Apt 1401  
Honolulu, HI 96826

**From:** [Noelani Rivers](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 18, 2015 7:20:06 AM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Noelani Rivers  
377 Paeoho Street  
Lahaina, HI 96761

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [pk.hitest@spamgourmet.com](mailto:pk.hitest@spamgourmet.com)  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB385 on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 18, 2015 8:10:47 AM

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**HB385**

Submitted on: 3/18/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
P Kuromoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: In addition to my previous testimony, I would like to point out that the definition of "electronic smoking device" is problematic at best. These devices can include ordinary components such as batteries and USB cables which will be criminalized by this bill. Again this bill is wrongheaded, unjustified, and should not be passed.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [Tyler Ralston](#)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Subject:** Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 18, 2015 8:53:06 AM

---

March 17th, 2015

To: The Honorable Josh Green, Chair  
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Health

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair  
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Re: Strong Support for HB 385, HD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 9:00 AM in Room 229

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I support HB 385, HD1 and respectfully ask that you pass this measure today.

Mahalo,

Tyler Ralston  
PO Box 10528  
Honolulu, HI 96816



**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [HTHTestimony](#)  
**Cc:** [ollo1188@hotmail.com](mailto:ollo1188@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for HB174 on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 17, 2015 8:27:16 AM

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**HB174**

Submitted on: 3/17/2015

Testimony for HTH/CPN on Mar 19, 2015 09:00AM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kim Murphy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)