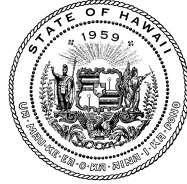


**DAVID Y. IGE**  
GOVERNOR

**SHAN TSUTSUI**  
LT. GOVERNOR



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**MARIA E. ZIELINSKI**  
DIRECTOR OF TAXATION

**JOSEPH K. KIM**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

To: The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair  
and Members of the House Committee on Transportation

Date: February 17, 2016

Time: 10:00 A.M.

Place: Conference Room 309, State Capitol

From: Maria E. Zielinski, Director  
Department of Taxation

Re: H.B. 2400, Relating to Cigarette Shipping Labels.

The Department of Taxation (Department) strongly supports H.B. 2400, an Administration measure, and provides the following comments for your consideration.

H.B. 2400 makes a technical amendment to section 245-16(b)(3)(B), Hawaii Revised Statutes, updating the required disclaimer to reference the age of twenty-one rather than the age of eighteen on cigarette shipping labels. H.B. 2400 is effective upon approval.

Last session, the legal age for the purchase of cigarettes in Hawaii was raised from eighteen to twenty-one years of age. This measure makes a conforming technical amendment to the cigarette and tobacco tax law which references the legal age for the purchase of cigarettes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

# TAX FOUNDATION OF HAWAII

126 Queen Street, Suite 304

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Tel. 536-4587

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SUBJECT: TOBACCO, Legal Notice on Cigarette Shipping Containers

BILL NUMBER: SB 2929; HB 2400 (Identical)

INTRODUCED BY: SB by Kouchi by request; HB by Souki by request

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Changes the legal notice required on cigarette shipping containers so that it reflects that the smoking age is now 21. This action appears to be necessitated by last year's legislation raising the smoking age to 21 as of January 1, 2016.

BRIEF SUMMARY: Amends HRS section 245-16(b)(3)(B), which prescribes the legal notice required on cigarette shipping containers, to state that Hawaii law prohibits the sale of cigarettes to individuals under twenty-one years of age.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon approval.

STAFF COMMENTS: This measure was submitted by the Department of Taxation as TAX-12 (16). It appears to be appropriate and required by Act 122, SLH 2015, which raised the legal age of smoking to twenty-one.

Digested 1/28/2016

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