


How is Smoking Harmful to One's Health?

Tobacco is the leading, most preventable, cause of disease and death in the United States. Smoking can harm almost any organ in the body. Some effects on health include, but are not limited to:

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- CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE
 - CATARACTS & LOSS OF EYESIGHT
 - ATHEROSCLEROSIS
 - REDUCED FERTILITY
 - REDUCED LIFE EXPECTANCY
 - CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE
 - CANCERS
 - PERIODONTAL DISEASE
 - ASTHMA
 - AGEING & FACIAL WRINKLES
 - ULCERS

Why Focus on Flavored Tobacco?

Flavored tobacco products are often a starter product for youths that can lead to long-term addiction. Youths also use flavored products significantly more than other age groups. Flavored tobacco bans will reduce the potential for youths to begin or continue using tobacco products.



teenagers who use tobacco started with a flavored product¹

Source: ¹ Journal of American Medical Association

Can the Color of the Packaging Indicate Flavor?

Yes, color of the package can be employed to convey the flavor of the tobacco. For instance, green might signify a menthol or minty taste whereas, red might indicate a fruity taste.

Questions?

Contact the Business Licensing Manager at:

BusLicense@saccounty.gov



Flavored Tobacco Ban



SACRAMENTO COUNTY

Environmental Management Department
11080 White Rock Road, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
EMD.SacCounty.Gov

What is the Flavored Tobacco Sales Ban?

The ban prohibits Tobacco Retail License holders from selling any tobacco product or byproduct including but not limited to cigars, cigarillos, vape liquid, and hookah tobacco that imparts a characterizing flavor.

What is a Flavored Tobacco Product?

“Flavored tobacco product” means any tobacco product that imparts a characterizing flavor.

“Characterizing flavor” means a taste or aroma, other than the taste or aroma of tobacco, imparted either prior to or during consumption of a tobacco product or any byproduct produced by the tobacco product, including, but not limited to, tastes or aromas relating to menthol, mint, wintergreen, fruit, chocolate, vanilla, honey, candy, cocoa, dessert, alcohol beverage, herb, or spice.

When Did the Ban Take Effect?

The ban took effect on July 25, 2022 in the unincorporated areas of Sacramento County, through an amendment of the Tobacco Retailer Business License (Sacramento County Code Chapter 4.07).

When is it a License Violation?

It shall be a violation of a license for a licensee or his or her agents or employees to sell or offer for sale any flavored tobacco product. There is a rebuttable presumption that a tobacco product is a flavored tobacco product if a manufacturer or its agents or employees has made a public statement or claim that the tobacco product has or produces a characterizing flavor, including but not limited to, text, color, or images on the product’s labeling or packaging that are used to expressly or impliedly communicate that a tobacco product has a characterizing flavor.

While the State of California exempts loose leaf tobacco, certain cigars and hookah, the County of Sacramento does not.

What Happens if Flavored Tobacco is Found?

If a business is found to have any flavored tobacco or nicotine product available to customers, the Tobacco Retailer License may be subject to suspension or revocation.

Examples of Restricted Tobacco Products



Menthol Cigarettes
(e.g., Newport Menthol, KOOL Blue)



Flavored Smokeless Tobacco
(e.g., SKOAL Wintergreen)



Flavored e-juice/pods
(e.g., JUUL Menthol, Blu liquid Blueberry, Vuse Solo Melon)



Flavored Little Cigars/Cigarillos
(e.g., Swisher Sweets Grape)



Flavored Wraps
Backwoods Honey, High Hemp are Berry, Zig-Zag Orange)



Concept Flavors
(e.g., Unicorn Milk Ice, Tropical Mix)