

Date: January 24, 2014	POLICY BRIEF PREPARED FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS	 OF NORTHERN LARIMER COUNTY
Staff: Dan Sapienza		

SB14-018 – PROHIBIT NICOTINE PRODUCT DISTRIBUTION TO MINORS

Concerning the prohibition against furnishing nicotine products to persons under eighteen years of age

Bill Details

Bill Title:	Prohibit nicotine product distribution to minors – Concerning the prohibition against furnishing nicotine products to persons under eighteen years of age
Bill Sponsors:	House – Hamner (D) and Young (D) Senate - Nicholson (D) and Jones (D)
Committee:	Senate Health and Human Services
Bill History:	01/08/2014 Introduced In Senate - Assigned to Health & Human Services
Next Action:	Hearing – Senate Health and Human Services – Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2014

Bill Summary

(Official Summary) Under current law, it is illegal to furnish tobacco products to persons under 18 years of age. Section 1 of the bill expands the prohibition to include all nicotine products. Sections 2 to 8 of the bill make conforming amendments concerning the liquor enforcement division's enforcement of the law.

Background

In 2011, the Colorado Revised Statutes were amended to make it illegal to sell or give a minor an e-cigarette or similar device. This new prohibition was added to the other prohibitions on the dispensing of tobacco products to minors. The definition of “tobacco product” was amended to include “Any electronic device that can be used to deliver nicotine to the person inhaling from the device, including but not limited to an electronic cigarette, cigar, cigarillo, or pipe.” This definition of electronic dispensers of nicotine as “tobacco products” is linguistically and legally awkward.

SB14-018 amends this section of the statutes and other areas to prohibit the sale and transfer of “nicotine products,” instead of “tobacco products.” The definition of nicotine is simpler: any product that contains nicotine that is intended to be ingested or inhaled and electronic devices that can be used to deliver nicotine.

About this Summary

This summary was prepared by Health District of Northern Larimer County staff to assist the Health District Board of Directors in determining whether to take an official stand on various health-related issues. The Health District is a special district of the northern two-thirds of Larimer County, Colorado, supported by local property tax dollars and governed by a publicly elected five-member board. The Health District provides medical, mental health, dental, preventive and health planning services to the communities it serves. For more information about this summary or the Health District, please contact Dan Sapienza, Policy Coordinator, at (970) 224-5209, or e-mail at dsapienza@healthdistrict.org.