

July 14, 2025

The Honorable William J. Driscoll, Jr.
Chair, Joint Committee on Public Health
Massachusetts Senate
24 Beacon St., Room 507
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Marjorie C. Decker
Chair, Joint Committee on Public Health
Massachusetts House of Representatives
24 Beacon St., Room 130
Boston, MA 02133

Re: AMA Support for H.2562 and S.1568 – to Create a Nicotine-Free Generation

Dear Senator Driscoll and Representative Decker:

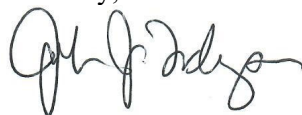
On behalf of the physician and medical student members of the American Medical Association (AMA), I am writing in support of House Bill 2562 and Senate Bill 1568 (H.2562 and S.1568), legislation that would prohibit the sale of tobacco products to individuals born on or after January 1, 2006. These bills represent a bold and innovative step toward protecting future generations from the lifelong harms of nicotine addiction and tobacco use.

The AMA has long advocated for strategies to reduce and ultimately eliminate the burden of tobacco and nicotine on public health. H.2562 and S.1568 offer a thoughtfully designed, phased approach to reducing the commercial availability of tobacco and nicotine products, both combustible and noncombustible, while avoiding disruption to those already legally able to purchase them. We believe that initiatives like this are critical components of a broader, multi-pronged strategy to end the use of tobacco and nicotine products. Phased sales restrictions focused on future generations are an important complement to other proven measures such as tobacco taxes, cessation support, public education, and restrictions on marketing to youth.

Additionally, we support the inclusion of periodic, comprehensive evaluations of the impacts of such policies in jurisdictions where they are implemented. These evaluations are essential to ensure that the public health objectives are being met and that implementation challenges can be addressed proactively. We encourage Massachusetts to lead in this space by integrating robust monitoring and analysis mechanisms to inform both future refinements of the policy and its potential replication in other jurisdictions.

Tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable death in the United States. By advancing H.2562 and S.1568, Massachusetts has an opportunity to set a national precedent and take a meaningful step toward ending the cycle of addiction and disease caused by tobacco and nicotine products. Thank you for your leadership on this critical issue and for the opportunity to provide testimony. The AMA strongly supports both pieces of legislation. Please reach out to me directly at 312-464-5288 or John.Whyte@ama-assn.org if you have questions or need further information.

Sincerely,



John Whyte, MD, MPH

cc: Massachusetts Medical Society