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Title: Discontinue Sale of Cigarettes and Tobacco Products at Pharmacies

Introduced by: Aldo Fantin, MD, for the Wayne County Delegation

Original Author: Aldo Fantin, MD

Referred to: Reference Committee D

House Action: **REFER**

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Whereas, overall mortality among both male and female smokers in the United States is about three times higher than that among similar people who never smoked, and

Whereas, cigarette smoking causes 1 in 5 deaths in the United States every year, and

Whereas, more than 480,000 deaths annually (including deaths from secondhand smoke) are attributed to smoking and life expectancy for smokers is at least 10 years shorter than for nonsmokers, and

Whereas, a seller of tobacco products does not need a license, as long as all the cigarettes and other tobacco products are purchased from a wholesaler licensed with the State of Michigan who affixes the tobacco tax stamp to the cigarettes and remits the appropriate tax to the State, and

Whereas, the Public Health Code defines the practice of pharmacy as a health service, the clinical application of which includes the encouragement of safety and efficacy in the prescribing, dispensing, administering and use of drugs and related articles for the prevention of illness and the maintenance and management of health, and

Whereas, Section 17722 of the Public Health Code grants authority to the Board of Pharmacy to regulate, control, and inspect the character and standards of pharmacy practice, and

Whereas, the Board of Pharmacy also has the obligation to discipline licensees who have adversely affected the public's health, safety, and welfare, and

Whereas, the business model of several corporate pharmacy stores includes the sale of cigarettes and tobacco products to the public, and

Whereas, the same business model may include "on the premises" administration of vaccines, blood testing and same day appointments with nurses; thereby, exposing the public to the conflicting message that they can obtain medications, receive health care and purchase cigarettes in the same building, even at the same visit, and

47           Whereas, the sale of cigarettes and tobacco products at pharmacies contradicts the fact  
48 that pharmacy is a health service, and

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50           Whereas, pharmacies making tobacco products available to the public undermines the  
51 principles of prevention of illness, public health, safety and welfare; therefore be it

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53           RESOLVED: That MSMS supports the discontinuation of all tobacco product sales within  
54 pharmacies and encourages the Michigan Board of Pharmacy, as the regulator of pharmacy  
55 practice, to end this practice.

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58           WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE

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Reference(s):

1. Michigan Tobacco Sales - [http://www.michigan.gov/taxes/0,1607,7-238-43542\\_43547-154443--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/taxes/0,1607,7-238-43542_43547-154443--,00.html)
2. Michigan Board of Pharmacy - [http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-72600\\_72603\\_27529\\_27548-59186--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/lara/0,4601,7-154-72600_72603_27529_27548-59186--,00.html)
3. CDC Tobacco Related Deaths -  
[http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data\\_statistics/fact\\_sheets/health\\_effects/tobacco\\_related\\_mortality/](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/health_effects/tobacco_related_mortality/)